THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF MID-WYEDEAN CHURCHES

England & Wales · Charity number 1132171

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	Previously excepted
Registered	2009-10-16
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: The mission and service of the Church of England and the pastoral and spiritual support of the population of the united ecclesiastical parish of the Mid-Wyedean Churches.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Religious Activities, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Environment/conservation/heritage, Economic/community Development/employment, Human Rights/religious Or Racial Harmony/equality Or Diversity, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, People Of A Particular Ethnic Or Racial Origin, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

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Geography

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

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£87,334	£89,941	-	-
2023-12-31	£87,318	£107,126	-	-
2022-12-31	£134,880	£105,573	-	-
2021-12-31	£168,703	£142,151	-	-
2020-12-31	£111,044	£107,089	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
DENISE JUNE HOGAN		2017-04-09
Dr Daniel John Kidger		2020-10-04
Edna Marian Ivens		2022-04-24
Elizabeth Weaver		2019-04-24
Jane Kidger		2025-05-18
Louise Emily Miles		2024-03-18
MRS BEA ERSKINE		
Paul Christopher Miles		2024-03-18
Rosemary Alison Ward		2020-10-04
SUSAN SPARKES		2018-04-25

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THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF MID-WYEDEAN CHURCHE

England & Wales - Charity number 1132171

Accounts

Mid-Wyedean Churches

serving Coleford, Clearwell, Newland, Redbrook, Staunton and surrounding communities

A united parish in:

DIOCESE OF GLOUCESTER

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Registered Charity 1132171

Mid-Wyedean Churches

Annual report of the PCC 2024

Welcome.

Friend and stranger, young and old, all are welcome here. As followers of Jesus, our journey of faith is one of love, compassion and justice for all.

Thank you.

Thank you to everyone involved in compiling this report and all your many and varied contributions throughout the year. Thanks as well to our regular congregations who, as well as gathering for worship, support one another as members of the church family, reach out to our communities, and give of their time, talents and 'treasure' to maintain the work of the parish. Thank you to all those who have generously contributed when attending church for weddings, baptisms and funerals or whilst passing through our beautiful area as visitors. Thanks to all who have partnered with us in the various facets of our work. 'Friends' groups, well established and embryonic; professional contractors and specialists; our CofE schools in Clearwell, Redbrook and Coleford (St John's) and our valued ecumenical partners. Particularly, The Friends of the Cathedral of the Forest, who give so much of their time and energy to raise funds for many things, from essential running costs to special projects.
And to Coleford Baptist Church, thank you so much for being our hosts for activities and companions in our journey of faith.
And to Toby Falconer, our appointed architect, who gives of his own time towards the Redbrook masonry project.
Thank you to our schools, Clearwell Church of England Primary School, Redbrook C of E Primary School and St John's C of E Academy in Coleford, who allow us to use their school for Mustard Tree.
Reverend Sarah Bick and the Mid-Wyedean Churches PCC

During the year we have received funding from:
Gloucester Diocese Pastoral Fund (Rent of MainPlace)
GCC Build Back Better grant (St. John's gardening project)
The National Churches Trust (Two grants - N. gable repointing and repair and tower gully repair at Redbrook)
DCMS Listed Place of Worship Grant (VAT reimbursement for Redbrook building work)
Gloucester Diocese Minor Repairs and Improvement Fund (Redbrook tower gully repair and Staunton trial render removal)
War Graves Commission (War Memorial restoration All Saints Newland)
And as always, The Friends of the Cathedral of the Forest.

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1 Executive summary

1.1 Charity aims and purposes

The primary objective of Mid-Wyedean Churches Parochial Church Council (PCC) is the promotion of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England. The PCC has the responsibility of cooperating with the Incumbent, Reverend Sarah Bick, in promoting the whole mission of the Church within and beyond the ecclesiastical parish and working with ecumenical partners. The Anglican Communion has agreed on these marks of mission:

- To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom of God
- To teach, baptise and nurture new believers
- To respond to human needs by loving service
- To seek to transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and to pursue peace and reconciliation
- To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth.

The Church of England is a broad church, containing within it differing views and approaches to the promotion of the Gospel. Mid-Wyedean Churches PCC has adopted a position of explicit inclusion, valuing the presence and God-given gifts of people of all ages, abilities, ethnicities, genders, sexual orientations and social backgrounds. We believe this is vital to our Christian mission in the 21st Century and entirely consistent with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. To support our convictions regarding inclusion, we also highly value the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults. We seek to serve all the residents of our parish, whether in town, village or rural locations. Responsible stewardship of all the gifts God has given us is important in fulfilling our mission. This includes care for creation: environmental concerns such as our carbon footprint impact all our decision-making.

The PCC is also specifically responsible for the care of the five church buildings within the united Parish, and the cemetery at Clearwell, and seeks the best use of those buildings to fulfil the mission of the church for the benefit of the communities in which they are found.

1.2 Objectives and activities

Our parish encompasses a number of distinct geographical communities, some with church buildings, but all of which we seek to serve. To fulfil our purposes as a multi-church parish, we aim to hold governance and broad strategy at the parish level but deliver mission and ministry at the community level. Rather than seeking to consolidate in the centre (known as the Minster Model), we value the presence and potential growth of worshipping communities and mission and ministry in every place, facilitated by a local minister (lay or ordained) acting as a team leader in each of our congregations. The Local Ministers meet regularly for communication and mutual support.

Volunteers and gifts in kind

Except for the Incumbent and the Parish Administrator, all ministry and community service is offered by volunteers, including all the local ministers. The time and talents they and others offer are invaluable, and the ministry of the church would be significantly diminished without them.
St John's Church of England Academy continues to support Mustard Tree meetings at the school without charging for the use of the premises.
Coleford Baptist Church also allows us the use of their premises both for shared endeavours as well as for some Mid-Wyedean activities.
We are grateful for both of these partnerships, especially as we still have no home of our own in Coleford town.

1.3 Highlights and challenges

Rev Sarah Bick, the vicar, took an overdue Sabbatical from August to October 2024. She and the PCC are grateful to all the local ministers, the Standing Committee, the Rev Alan Wearmouth and Pastor Sam Davis for covering essential functions during this time.

Building for Coleford? A building on the St John's CofE Academy site became vacant around Easter 2024. The building is a former Sure Start Centre that had until this year been used by a charity providing a playgroup. Unfortunately for them, the demand for their services just wasn't there, so they could not make it a going concern. There are two other Early Years providers within 400m. One of the trustees asked us if we would be interested in taking on the lease from Gloucestershire County Council (GCC). This was interesting to us, as much of our outreach is based on school connections and relationships. It would, for example, provide a useful base for the outdoor and gardening activities to continue during school holidays and weekends.
We visited the building and were quite excited about the possibilities. So we put together a business plan and approached GCC. Unfortunately, GCC wanted first to advertise the space as available for Early Years provision exclusively, given the original purpose of the building. As I write, in May 2025, the building still stands empty. We continue to pursue this possibility.

Administration. The ups and downs of our admin provision have continued in 2024. The postholder did some great work, including using strengths from his previous roles in the building industry to great effect. However, he also suffered some considerable issues with on-going health conditions and had a lot of time away from work. Sadly, the parish could no longer take the financial risk of employment, so had to take the decision not to renew that contract. Instead, in 2025, we plan to seek self-employed contractor(s) to take on different tasks. How this will work is still being mapped out.

St John's Academy. Our partnership with continued to prosper in 2024 with the after-school gardening club, work with some of the classes, assemblies and Mustard Tree celebration events with food in August and December.

In summary - our challenges are similar to previous years, and largely around resources: financial and human, in terms of numbers of people and therefore our finite capacity of time and energy.
Our strengths are also human (and divine)! Human, in the wonderful, faithful, servant-hearted, creative people of this parish, for whom we thank God daily.
And we would dearly love to have resolved the need for premises in Coleford for growing new church.

2 Parish Wardens' Report

Maggie Cheadle, Mark Bick and Local Ministry Teams

All Saints, Newland

Local minister: Reverend Bea Erskine, Parish Assistant Priest



Mission and Ministry

Church life in Newland, continue to be reasonably supported with numbers at regular Sunday worship, ranging from about 10 to 20. We continue to be blessed with our 'organist' in the village on most occasions when needed.

An Easter Egg Hunt arranged in conjunction with The Ostrich Pub took place after the Easter Eucharist, attracting families to worship and furthering our intention to work closely with other villages groups and organisations.

The Christmas Services were also well supported, particularly as they were almost three days in a row, as the usual slot for Beer and Carols was moved due to the Treorchy Male Choir concert earlier in December. Numbers as follows: Beer and Carols 70, Midnight Mass 29 (which was quite low for us) and Christmas Day 70.

One of our younger members of the regular congregation is working towards confirmation and this is finally happening at his school in Monmouth in June. Having completed his Duke of Edinburgh award, he continues to help with the church and regularly reads the Epistle and helps with the services and other events in the church.

There continues to be a real sense of ownership of the building and church yard by the village and wider community, which is a huge blessing, in so many ways, but also an appreciation of the peace and presence of God that people feel in the church. Particularly following funerals of local people, where the wider community have come together and rather experienced this firsthand.
Whilst there is undoubtably a sense of local ministry, as living in the village and exercising horses and walking dogs, does provide some helpful encounters, I'm also aware that I am not in touch with everyone and this continues to be a goal to aim for!

Building and churchyard

Wider vision for future projects, particularly heating and the sustainability of the church and for the wider community continues to be worked on by the Friends.
The War Memorial restoration was finally completed and is looking very good
Amongst all the work being undertaken by the Friends, this includes regular payment of the grass cutting, the price of each cut having increased to £200 for the coming year and raising further funds to manage the church yard.
Also happy to report the work to the entrance of the church, namely the resetting and aligning of the stone slabs in front of the porch and repair of the tomb surround and steps to the side, was completed. Including the resurfacing the entire Almshouse Road path. We now have a smooth access to the church for those with reduced mobility and no more puddles to wade through at the entrance.
Another good Spring Clean in the church yard attracting folk who might not normally attend church but really feel a connection with it. With generous offers of food, a hydraulic skip, general muscle power and get up and go, these are good community events with much laughter and chat, but also some wonderful pastoral encounters and interesting conversations about faith and spirituality.

Community engagement 2024

- Sabriensis Dido's Lament 15th June
- Fundraising concert for the conflict in Gaza 22nd June
- Apple Day in conjunction with the Ostrich in October
- Treorchy Male Choir 7th December.

…and planned for 2025

- Newland Cricket Club Annual Dinner to be hosted in the church.
- Easter Egg Hunt, following the Easter Eucharist, in conjunction with The Ostrich, to become an annual event
- St Cecillia's Singers
- Treasure Island Jenny Wren Theatre 27th July
- Village Party in conjunction with the Friends in August

- Autumn village dinner event.

The Friends of 'The Cathedral of the Forest' and local volunteers

The children's play area and the flowers are now being looked after and provided by various people in the village on a regular basis. The Churchyard Spring and Autumn clear-up days continue to be very well supported, not only clearing where necessary but also helping to establish more wildflower areas and greater ecological diversity in the churchyard.
We are extremely grateful to the Friends who have paid for:

- Regular grass cutting and raising further funds to manage the churchyard
- Wi-Fi in the church
- Additional WiFi upgrade for the AV system
- War Memorial restoration
- Porch re alignment and tarmac for path
- New matting for children's play area

Visitors

Visitor numbers on the latest count appear to have risen slightly from 17,000 to 18,000 in the last year.

All Saints, Staunton

Local minister: Denise Hogan, Lay Reader



AI imaging has made it to Mid-Wyedean!

Mission and ministry

Services

18 attended a Mothering Sunday service and 41 attended on Easter Sunday….the children enjoyed a quiz and Easter Egg hunt (thanks **Louise).**
29 humans attended a successful Pet service in May along with 13 dogs, 1 cat and 1 tortoise!
27th October saw a well-attended Harvest Festival service, followed by a sit-down Harvest Tea, with homemade soup, crusty bread and several puddings. Enjoyed by all.
An All Souls service did not attract many villagers, so we will review whether to put this on again, or direct people to one of the other services in the parish. However, Remembrance was once again very well attended.
A second pet service planned for later in November sadly had to be cancelled because a power cut in church meant the heating wasn't working.
The carol concert was very well attended, with mince pies and mulled wine, and so was the Christmas morning service. The church was decorated by many volunteers as per usual and looked very pretty.

Discipleship Group – The Chosen

In June 2024, with support from Sarah and Denise, John and Maggie Cheadle started a weekly group to watch and discuss the drama series 'The Chosen'.
This was intended mainly as an outreach to the village of Staunton, as well as providing teaching for those in our church fellowship, and so we chose to hold it in the village hall, on Tuesday evenings, 7-9pm.
The evenings began with tea/coffee and cake etc as people arrived, then after a prayer and welcome the programme was shown, followed by a time of discussion and questions, based around relevant verses from the Gospels and how the programme cteatively depicted the events. The evening then closed with prayer.
Despite posters around the village and notices on the parish weekly newsletter, no villagers came along (only those who were part of the church fellowship).
However, the group was very well attended – from between 10 to 20 people each week, with people from across our churches and beyond. It was very much enjoyed and included some challenges to our thinking.
After the first series, the hall was no longer available to us and so the second series took place in The Good Shepherd, Broadwell. Again, it proved to be well attended, and people were very enthusiastic about the drama. For this second series, we included more actual bible study, reading of scripture and used resources from the official 'Chosen' website.
We took a break during the Winter months and plan to regroup for series 3 after Easter 2025. (MC)

Visitors and community

We continue to have lots of visitors to the church during the week.
Many sign the book and say thank you for keeping the church open and for the refreshments, and how peaceful they find the church.
We hope next year to have a regular coffee morning at church. There are other monthly coffee mornings in the village – now we have some facilities, it would be great to get the church on the circuit!

Building works

Gradual progress is being made with the most urgent QI works identified last year, and with firming up the plans for a more permanent hospitality facilities, as the countdown on the two year temporary licence is well underway.
Thanks go to the many members of the congregation who chip in to get jobs done, like clearing gutters, repairing locks, chasing heating engineers, keeping the tower safe … and emptying the loo! Thanks Neil, John, Chris, Andrew and Paul.

Damp problems. Our architect has recommended that $10m^2$ and $5m^2$ sections of render will be removed, the first re-rendered in lime and the second just repointed. The purpose is to test how long it takes, the cost and effectiveness. We had been invited to submit an

application to a new Diocesan grant scheme, specifically for this work. Mark made the application requesting £8K against £10K total project cost. We were awarded £5K the balance will need to come from Staunton restricted funds. The work went out to tender and has been commenced.

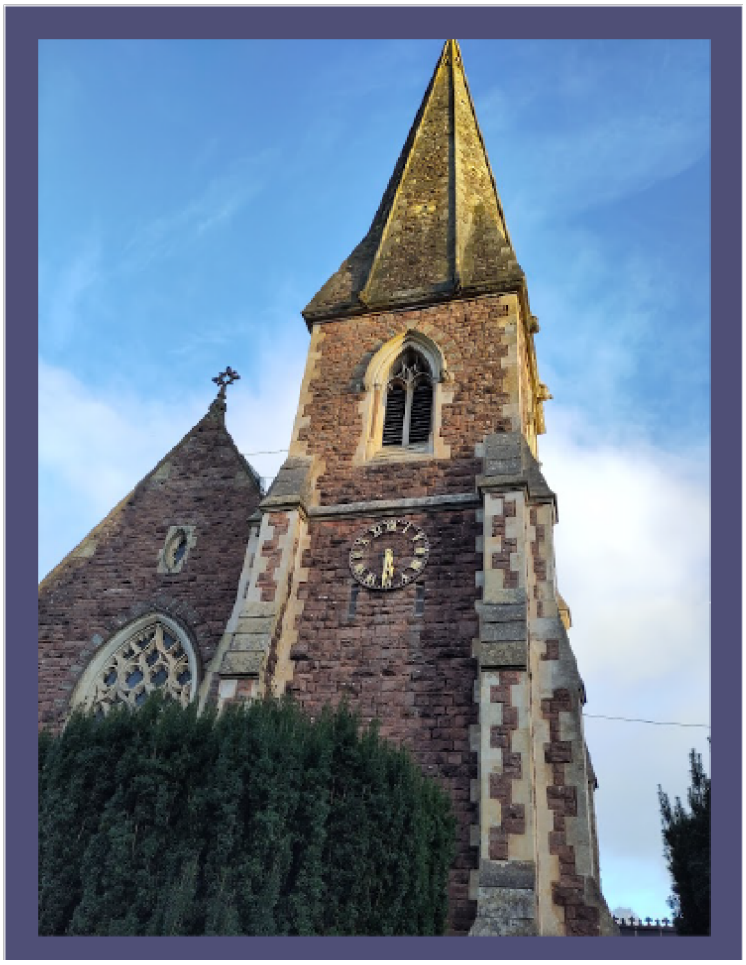
Kitchen area and toilet - A "Temporary Mission Reordering Order" was granted by the Archdeacon on 11th Feb 2024 for the current sink facility. It runs for a maximum of 24 months. To keep the sink beyond that we would have to draw up a full reordering proposal for that area of the church in collaboration with our architect, to satisfy the DAC (Diocesan Advisory Committee), get agreement on this and then apply for a full faculty by 12th December 2025 at the very latest. The current outside toilet does not have any permission may have to be at any time. An internal toilet with a trench arch drain or an external composting toilet could be included in the full reordering proposals.
LCC discussions on this have begun.

Friends

The redevelopment of the Friends group is an aspiration for next year.

St Peter's Clearwell and the Clearwell Cemetery chapel and grounds

Local ministers: Christine Young and Rev Robert Simpson (Permission To Officiate - retired)



Mission and Ministry

The Open the Book team have continued at school with Chris Young, Robert Simpson, Marian Ivens and Chris Bryant (from Bream). There were school services for Easter, Harvest, and Christmas. The Harvest Service is offered as a combined school and community occasion.
Chris Young repeated her Friday night Taize & Compline services in the summer and there have been festival services for Easter, St. Peter's day, Harvest, Remembrance, and Christmas, as well as a Pet Service. The church continues to be open every day. Many thanks go to Tom Powell for locking up the church every day, but he is now moving away. We are appealing for villagers to volunteer to go on a rota. Thanks also to Alan and Mary for keeping the church clean.

Building matters

Cemetery Chapel The National C of E process to transfer this closed building, the boundary wall and small patch of land to the Forest of Dean Building Conservation Trust continued extremely slowly. The boundary wall started to collapse, due to damage from tree roots. The Diocesan buildings officer had previously told us not to do work on the trees in this area! Our stonemason and Simon Moore (local surveyor and member of the Diocesan Buildings Advisory Committee) managed to make it safe on a temporary basis, but we had no funds to do any further repair. At the end of the year, we discovered that these problems were holding up the transfer!

Cemetery & Churchyard The current mowing contractor agreed to extend his offer half price work for the 2025 season but this is not sustainable long term. Some self-seeded trees in the conservation area were removed by volunteers (with the necessary permissions) and a large dying Ash Tree and a few other larger self-seeded trees removed by a contractor (at a cost of £1,350). The cemetery is again costing far more to maintain than is secured in income. We had a site meeting with two potential local volunteers interested in developing the cemetery for biodiversity, but do not have anyone to lead a project. The yew trees in the churchyard were substantially trimmed and re-tied in, funded by a donation.

St. Peter's Building No significant work was done on the building during the year. The stonemason, access contractor and architect were unable to find a common date to do the roof checks and tile replacement. A quinquennial architect's inspection is due in 2025

Fund-raising

The fashion show in partnership with Teri Chance Boutique raised £440 this year, which makes a valuable contribution to parish funds. Thanks to Daphne and Betty for organising that again this year. They are now handing over the mantle to Ann Meek for next year.

St Saviour's, Redbrook

Local minister: Mark Bick, Pioneer Lay Reader



Masonry Training Weekend Oct 2024

Mission and ministry

Mark Bick as local minister continues to engage in the village. There were festal services at Easter, Remembrance and Christmas together with school services, but we could not get anyone to take services during Mark and Sarah's Sabbatical. We plan to start monthly services in 2025

Community engagement

Use of the building. The school continue to use the church daily for lunches, and for weekly Open the Book led by Bernadette Kilty, a retired teacher with other volunteers.
The community choir continue to use the building on Weds nights and performed at various events in the area. Mark is a member of the choir.
Family friendly music nights (with food) continued with 5 sessions in 2024 on Saturday nights from 5pm to 7pm They are working well with growing sense of community and regular attenders now helping with food, set up and packing up. About 80 different adults and children attended over the year.
All these activities contribute to electricity costs and upkeep of the building.
Redbrook gardening work – The 2023 pollinator friendly planting was further developed in 2024 and a small veg bed set up for use by the school. There is still work to do to complete this project.

Building matters

Tower Gully – The failed lead lining was replaced and timberwork repaired by Theoc Conservation (Ian Bishop) at a total cost of £7K funded by National Churches Trust, Gloucester Diocese
Sanctuary window - internal stone repairs and decoration were completed by Ian Bishop and Laura Vale Stephens after a long wait for a faculty for the decoration However, the approach to the decoration we were forced to use by the Diocese has led to subsequent flaking and crumbling. The work (together with the external work completed in 2023) was covered by grants from the National Churches Trust, the Kempe Trust and the Sabina Sutherland Trust.
North Nave Gable - External high-level repointing and repairs were completed by Theoc Conservation at a cost of £6K, funded with grands from the Benefact Trust , Gloucestershire Historic Churches Trust and Gloucestershire Historic Churches Trust. This area had been caught in time to avoid major replastering internally just some patching and redecoration.
Masonry training weekend - The fourth annual event took place on the first weekend of October with a mixture of Cathedral apprentices from across the country, and more local participants. It cost £4.4K and was funded from fees, support in kind from the Redbrook Village Trust, and a £1K private donation. More work was done this year to low level masonry - right round the building, including the porch and porch gable. This project

makes a significant contribution to the overall task of getting the building off the Heritage At Risk register. A final annual event is planned for 2025 tackling the tower.

All this work also benefited from funding from the Government Listed Place of Worship Grant which covers VAT.

The kitchen - Remains unfinished – the temporary bits that have been installed are used regularly by the school, for Music Nights and for refreshments on other occasions including school services. The work needed to wait for the completion of the North Gable but we just have not had the capacity for fundraising and project management.
Electrical work is planned for January 2025 to repair external lighting, put LED lighting in the chancel and more sockets in the kitchen.

Long term viability - There is clearly demand for community and school use of the building and potential to rebuild a worshiping community, but both human resources and energy costs continue to be a challenge. The building is now in much better shape, but there are still risks of sudden costs, including a big ash tree on the boundary which is inspected annually for dieback. A sustainable future is likely to be dependent on getting faculty permission and funding to insulate the building, so that increased use and lettings income is not simply swallowed up in energy costs.

The Good Shepherd, Broadwell

Local minister: Reverend Sarah Bick, Parish Incumbent



Broadwell Chat - Carol Singing

Mission and ministry

During the year there was a change of service pattern. The 1st and 3rd Sundays are Benefice services and on the Second Sunday it is just the local congregation plus from time-to-time Baptisms have been booked. The 4th Sunday was a joint service the Baptist Church. Funeral Services are also regularly held here during the week.

The 1st Thursday of each month the **Coffee and Chat** group continue to meet, led by Sue Sparkes**,** Sue Brain and Marian Ivens. After a short break, the sessions have been brought back under the new name of **Broadwell Chat.** The group is still small in number - the wider community of Broadwell seems very difficult to broach. However, people are joining us from across the parish, and those who do attend "Broadwell Chat" really enjoy it for its friendship, support and conversation. The table of exchange with bric a brac, books, puzzles, toiletries and the like is successful and a novel talking point. As usual the cakes provided are gratefully consumed and there are always "goodies" to take home. Any contributions to the "table" are gratefully received.
Please come along and enrich the conversation. We all need each other.

An **Art and Craft Retreat** took place for the first time in 2024 on Saturday 8th June. This was led by Ann Meek and Rev Sarah Bick on the theme of The Lord's my Shepherd. Ann provided some examples and inspiration for us, as well as various kinds of media and materials for participants to explore, who could also bring along something they were

already working on if they wished. Sarah led the group in worship throughout the day, including morning prayer and reflections, a midday eucharist and a final worship where we shared what we had been doing with the group.
Members of our own congregations and from Coleford Baptist Church joined. It was extremely well received and another is planned for next year.
Not the finest example of the day's output, but an available photograph (!) of a woolly sheep finger labyrinth by Sarah!



Following a successful **discipleship group** showing of **The Chosen**, season 1 at Staunton earlier in the year, we showed season 2 at The Good Shepherd in the Autumn. The Chosen is a television/streaming programme about the life of Jesus and the disciples. A discipleship group gathered to watch and discuss each episode over an eight week period. We find it very faith enriching and thought provoking to see the gospel stories presented in this format.

Activities and Fundraising

The Shalom group who had met at the Good Shepherd have now moved to Bream this was because of the increased charges to cover heating. But would like to return.
However, the Mahjong Club has returned and meets fortnightly on a Monday starting the 11th March paying £6/hr for use of small room.

Craft Club

The Thursday afternoon craft club from 2 till 4pm began nearly two decades ago. It was started as the ecumenical meeting for anyone interested in any form of craft. Originally, we were joined by members of Row's Page Craft Club and interest range from embroidery, knitting, beading, and even painting (Ann Harley would do her painting in the kitchen). Now the club includes church members from across the parish, not just The Good Shepherd, and anyone who may be interested to join.
The club runs throughout the year, including through the summer, only closing for several meetings at Easter and Christmas. Over the years, the numbers have fluctuated and range from 2to 12 people, but typically 4 to 6. It was a club that has never had a membership fee., Everyone pays each time you attend, originally £2, but from the beginning of 2025 this was raised to £3. This pays towards the room rental, a drink and chocolate biscuit.
The craft club has always been led by Anne Meek, a qualified schoolteacher, and expert embroiderer. The original idea was to encourage more use of the Good Shepherd and provide a small amount of finance. The vestry has always been used- so close to the kitchen and with heating, and the church also has toilet facilities. Anne has run workshops at the church also for a period at Zigzags, Pyart Court, Coleford. We've had trips out. eg Nature in Art, Malvern quilt show.
The Purple Ladies' group has developed from the craft club, where a wider group of ladies, not necessarily crafters, go on trips and out for meals. In the last two years the club and other church members have organised a Christmas fayre with proceeds going to church finances.

Fundraising
The Craft Club organised a Christmas Craft Fayre in November at the Good Shepherd. This raised £613.80 for Parish General Funds.

Building and grounds

The Lime tree was pollarded to the height of the Church roof by Dave Fissenden of Forest of Dean Tree Services.
The Roof and Gutters by Monmouth Carpentry and Roofing completed the work at a cost of £2,570. The gulley on roof over the side room was cleared, they also did their best to clear the drain that the same gulley and the kitchen waste pipe runs into.
Both need regular maintenance. The fascia board above the path at the side of the church was treated with a wood preserver but will need replacement at some stage.

Doors: Nick Dring put a new lock on back door.
Nick looked into getting quotes to repair all the doors, but we are still waiting for quotes.
Nick unfortunately has been off long-term sick for the latter part of the year.

A smart meter was installed this year.

Rosemary arranged to have two of the Strip lights replaced with LED strip lights. It is hoped that as the lights go, they will also be replaced with LED lights.

Building and Garden Tidy

In the Summer we had spent several days tiding up the garden with the help of Archie and Geoff and several members of the congregation. Archie moved the gravel from the sacks and filled some of the potholes with the gravel.
On one Saturday we planted Bulbs in the garden.
The church lobby weas improved and the notices moved inside the church.

The safe cupboard behind the Organ was tidied up, and all the documents that need to be secure were moved into the cupboard. This is in preparation for having the church open during the week for the community to use for sanctuary and quiet.

Coleford Town: St John's C of E Academy

Worship - This happens weekly on Thursday mornings alternately led by Sarah and Sam from the Baptist Church, Sam did every week during Sarah's sabbatical.





Gardening Project – The weekly after school club continued to thrive, with up to 15 children and a waiting list. It is led by Mark Bick in collaboration with one of the teachers. Parent volunteers continued to help with the restoration work and by the end of the year we had 3 regular volunteers for gardening club. All the expenses have been covered with a "Thriving Communities" Grant from Glos County Council, a proportion of the Diocesan Mission Fund grant, and GCC "Build Back Better" funding through our local County Councillor. Bishop Rachel visited on 7th of May, heard from the children about what they were doing and shared some of the food they had grown. We held a summer holiday celebration event and another one with worship, (using the Mustard Tree name) in December with parent volunteers cooking a full Christmas dinner. It is wonderful seeing the children getting excited about growing, preparing and eating fresh organic food. We believe that this lays strong foundations for caring for creation and sustainable healthy living.

Other work with the school – Mark led a "Courageous Advocacy" project with year six at the end of summer term (paid through a Greener Gloucestershire grant), looking at

climate change. The idea of Courageous Advocacy has been developed by Christian Aid and is promoted nationally by the C of E, forming a strand within SIAMS inspection/reporting.
Mark also did some gardening work with KS1 classes.

Coleford Town: missional and ecumenical activities

Several of the town's churches had vacancies or ministers taking sick leave or sabbaticals this year, and so many of the usual ecumenical activities have been lower key or without a full complement of minsters taking part. Rev Sarah Bick is grateful to Pastor Sam Davis for covering her St John's School worship slots during September and October for her sabbatical, and for doing much of the preparation for Remembrance Sunday, even if he said never again ☺

Lent, Holy Week and Easter

Mid-Wyedean Churches and Coleford Baptist Church held a joint study group showing and discussing season one of The Chosen (the show is discussed elsewhere in this report, as it went on to be used as a Mid-Wyedean study group, first in Staunton then in Broadwell).
The Good Friday Walk of Witness began at St Margaret Mary RC Church and gathered at the Clock Tower for a dramatised reading of the Passion and a time of worship.
Easter morning at dawn saw joyful worship at the Buckstone in Staunton.

Civic Events

The now regular events of the St George's Day and Remembrance Sunday Parade and Service took place in April and November respectively, with a much more deliberately coordinated ecumenical presence - with Anglicans and Baptists once again taking leadership roles.

Coleford Town: Parish-wide mission and social activities

Warm space – becomes Games Night

The continued high energy prices and general cost of living saw the continuation of Games Night through the winter and spring months in the first half of the year. So we continued our partnership with Coleford Baptist Church to offer a night of board games and films, hot food and friendly chat on Fridays 5-7 pm, sometimes later. The Baptist Church offers the warm space, we cover food costs and much of the volunteer time.

There was a small (but faithful) crowd accessing this service across the whole age range. However, with the retirement of Rev Geraint Williams, and his moving away with wife Wendy in the summer, and Rev Sarah taking sabbatical from the same time, we reluctantly came to the conclusion that it was time to 'concede' knock over our game pieces and then pack them away for another time.
The continuing Baptist minister, Pastor Sam Davis, continues to provide open space for the youth members of the group.

Cygnets to Swans

As Leaders we thought that the best report as to the health of "Cygnets to Swans" would be to ask the young people themselves, so what I am reporting is the feedback from them.
They agreed that "it was fun." They like being together, so it is a good social place, which was all the more appreciated because it was informal and not like school with being told what to do.
There was a sense of "belonging" and bonding together with collaborative and personal input to the drama which was all the more enjoyable for the variety of content provided by The Leader, Matthew Parker. The Music was important too.
Overall, the young people felt that they had gained in confidence and this confidence had enabled them to audition for parts in productions in their schools. All agreed that being part of "Cygnets to Swans" was very rewarding.
Look out for the new Logo for the group which in 2025 will be meeting at a new time on Tuesdays after school, 4pm - 6pm. (MP/MI)

Mustard Tree

Mustard Tree remained in abeyance for much of the year, but we had two wonderful Celebrations under the Mustard Tree banner, in the Summer holidays and at Christmas. These were pitched at Gardening Club and baptism families, taking place at St John's CofE Academy. More details can be found in the St John's CofE Academy report above.

Mustard Seeds

Mustard Seeds has had a very faithful few families attending since September - ranging from 3 to 6 families. The children have grown in that time into now active toddlers who really "own" the space! It is also great to see them learning to share and play together. All the mothers get on well and agree that being in a small Mother and Toddler group is less intimidating for their children - so quality not quantity.
"Mustard Seeds" is most grateful to the Baptist Church for sharing their space and the toys of course! Volunteers are always welcome to help out once a month. Mark and Sarah presented a Nursery Rhyme Nativity on 17th December which went down well. It would be lovely to have someone to share some more live music with the children, so if you know of anyone willing to do that please be in touch. (MI)

3 Parish Administration and Parish Office

Parish Administrator

This post continues to be of significant importance to the Parish as the means of releasing those in leadership and ministry to focus on the mission of the church. The post-holders have managed the tasks of operational efficiency within the parish and facilitated communication between our geographically-spread groups and congregations. They have given direct administrative support to the large number of volunteers in middle leadership roles within the Parish, in particular, the EMEP team and the wardens and have supported our welcoming ethos and communication with the wider community. Unfortunately, the grant funding that supported this post was discontinued in 2021, and hoped-for solutions to this loss have not transpired, so the ongoing possibility of maintaining this crucial post is has been subject to the fragility of overall parish finances. Nick Dring, who was recruited last year, continued in post until the end of his fixed contract on 31st December. He brought strengths from his previous roles in the building industry which he used to great effect, and had considerable determination in getting to know the extremely varied role, and specialist software. However, he also suffered some considerable issues with on-going health conditions and had a lot of time away from work. Sadly, the parish can no longer take the financial risk of employment, so has taken the decision not to renew that contract. Instead, in 2025, we plan to seek self-employed contractor(s) to take on different tasks. How this will work is still being mapped out.

Parish Office

The office is in central Coleford, above the Public Library and has the advantages of a lift to the first floor, accessible toilets and level access to the building, so from a community point of view, it is ideal. It is one of several offices, some permanently rented out and some available for hire so there is always an interesting, productive and cooperative atmosphere, yet the office also offers a private space within the hub of the Coleford Community Enterprise Centre. Parish prayers are held here and it has proven a convenient place for people to call into. The office core hours have been 8 am to 12 pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, but this will change for 2025.

Phone: 07933 935534

Email: office.midwyedean@gmail.com

Address: Office 2, Coleford Community Enterprise Centre, The Main Place, Old Station Way, Coleford GL16 8RH

4 Weddings, baptisms and funerals

Church	Baptism			Weddings	Funerals	
	Infants	Children	Adults		Church or crematorium	Interment only
Broadwell		1		1	6	
Clearwell		1		4	9	1
Newland				2	4	6
Redbrook						
Staunton						1
Listed as MWD					10	1
TOTAL		2		7	29	5

2024 has been a slow year for pastoral offices, particularly baptisms, down from 14 across the parish to only 2. We don't believe there is anything we have done or failed to do locally that has led to this change. Hopefully it's a blip!

Pastoral care/ home communion

The pastoral care/ home communion team consists of Wendy Williams, Marian Ivens, Maggie Cheadle, Sue Sparkes, Chris Young and myself, Jane Kidger. The team have continued to visit the ill, lonely and housebound. Most of us are trained by Sarah, to take Home Communion to those who request it.

We are a relatively new team set up by myself, and are all understanding, empathetic, caring individuals who visit people who are not able to attend church themselves for whatever reason.

Since the last report, we have continued to visit P monthly giving him home communion. D we have given much needed pastoral care, but since her last stay in hospital the need for the team to visit as often is less as she now has carers visit her several times a day. We have begun visiting H

who has now been diagnosed with dementia. We sometimes visit her at home and other times in the coffee shop which gives her a well needed change of scenery. Apart from the visits, we contact them and others by phone to give them support and friendship. Although this has in fact already happened, we are about to start offering lifts to and from church, for anyone who would otherwise be unable to come.

I would like to thank all the team who have been doing a fantastic job. If anyone knows of someone who would benefit from a visit or a call, or a lift to church, then please let Jane know. Also if anyone would like to join the team, doing visits, or like their name added to the lift rota please make contact. Jane's telephone number is 07840 283847. JK

6 **Ecumenical Links** - Reverend Sarah Bick

We continue to value our close links with Coleford Baptist Church, who have generously hosted events for us and support our work as well as hosting a shared service once a month, a shared Lent course, as well as Mustard Seeds Baby and Toddler Group and Cygnets2Swans Youth drama crew.
Sadly, the building share plans with Baptist and Catholics fell through when the RC Bishop withdrew his support in the face of changing plans for the RC churches in the Forest Area. And with Pastor Sam in the early stages of his solo ministry, he and his deacons do not feel this is the time to pursue a two-way building share. Though, as you can see from above, they are very generous in their support hosting some of our activities, for which we are very grateful, as we are still without our own base in Coleford Town.

A Franciscan group regularly meets at The Good Shepherd.

7 **Deanery Synod Report, Forest South Deanery**

The Deanery Strategic Plan continues to be the main topic on the agenda for the Deanery Synod for all of this year's meetings and with a small group working on the plan in between times.
In the end, Forest Deanery plan has not proposed cuts to clergy numbers or immediately redirecting Parish Share funds to shared administration/operations posts.
Instead we have proposed some areas for joint endeavour, many of which are similar to that voiced by other deaneries:
Youth Ministry – connecting through secondary schools.
Focal (local) Ministry – sharing the EMEP pattern from our parish across the deanery.
Officer peer group support and training – for Church wardens, treasurers etc.
Buildings – power of bulk buying, sharing good practice, exploring the possibility of employed post/s to support building management and administration.

A new model for calculating Parish Share has been laid out in draft form. We await final design in 2025.

8 Finance Report

The church accounts were kept using the Diocesan cashbook and this year have been independently examined by Nicholas Scott, appointed by the PCC since our last meeting, who is an accountant civil servant, and a Christian serving and worshipping with Forest of Dean Salvation Army. The accounts are presented for your inspection, having been adopted by the PCC at a meeting in 2025.

Overall, we are in a better position than in 2023. We set a clear budget for the year, and have managed to balance it.

Many thanks to all those who have maintained and sometimes increased their giving in these difficult times. It remains the case that regular giving through the Parish Giving Scheme is the solid base of our income and I urge anyone reading this who can do so to join that scheme with its benefits in terms of ease of administration, effortless reclaiming of tax if gift-aided and reliable regularity of income. Our income gained through parochial fees (for weddings and funerals) is gradually returning to a more reliable level. In addition, this year we have been able to increase our lettings income as we hoped, in particular at Redbrook.

Our expenditure is hugely impacted by the number of church buildings for which we have responsibility. In 2024, the total spent on maintaining, preserving and using our buildings came to £39,337 despite cost-saving measures including avoiding heating wherever possible by reducing services in the winter months. Insurance alone comes to around £11,000. Applying for grants to pay for major repairs comes with a cost of its own – people who feel called to grow the church, instead find themselves working to preserve buildings. Sometimes both things can align – just not very often!

The PCC took the decision to maintain the post of Parish Administrator until the end of the fixed contact and then to review, with the decision made to take the financially less risky path of seeking self-employed contractors. The decision was made June 2023 to both stop paying parish share altogether until such time as parish finances can manage it, and to reduce the total paid for administration as described elsewhere in this report.

9 Hopes, Plans and Priorities for 2025

Some hopes and plans in each of our settings have been referenced above in each section, by local leaders. On a Parish-wide scale, and as themes across the different settings of the parish, we continue (post-Covid) to have the task of deepening the discipleship of our faithful church members. We seek to respond to community needs where we have the vision and resources ourselves, or in partnership with others. Underpinning everything we do is the need to be realistic about the human and financial resources that we have. An unending spiritual resource is ours! But that doesn't mean it is a given that, at any time we need them, material and human resources are equally abundant. We need, with God's help, to make discerning decisions about what we can do within our capacities of energy and money.

Whilst we are still subject at parish level to decisions made at other levels of our organisation, some possible priorities for 2025 include:

- Seeking other networks that can support our vision
- Building on progress in 2024, continuing to grow back a programme of discipleship and social gatherings, for adults and families
- further developing Friends groups for those of our churches that do not already have them
- improving the use of our open buildings, both for welcome/spiritual sanctuary and for raising funds
- seeking new funding for the parish administrator post, (or other fixed costs)
- pursuing possible base for mission in Coleford town.

10 Safeguarding Report

Safeguarding Officers

The current safeguarding officer is the vicar Rev Sarah Bick who can be contacted on 01594 835476 or vicar.midwyedean@gmail.com. The deputy officer is Mark Bick who can be contacted on 01594 836418 or 07815 459468 or mark@markbick.co.uk. We were asked by the Diocese to find a new safeguarding officer. Someone has been identified who is suitable and has expressed willingness to take this on, but we have not yet been able to put this into effect.

Reported Concerns

Two safeguarding concerns were reported to Mark or Sarah in 2024, both of these were reported to the Diocesan Safeguarding Team.

Training

No DBS checks have been undertaken in 2024.
The St. John's Gardening Club operates under the wing of the school, who deal with all safeguarding checks and any concerns.
All PCC members & activity leaders need to complete safeguarding training. Most have done this, but not all. The online training can be accessed at https://safeguardingtraining.cofeportal.org/index.php? . There are also in person courses or the opportunity to do the online courses in a small group.

SB

11 Mid-Wyedean Parish

Google Maps: https://goo.gl/maps/vxt9WWEqGm6jZVAQ6



[7]

[7] Map: Ink Squirrel www.inksquirrel.uk

11.1 Location and legal structure

The Parish of the Mid-Wyedean Churches is part of the Diocese of Gloucester within the Church of England and serves the town of Coleford in the Forest of Dean district of Gloucestershire and many of the surrounding villages on the western side of the Forest and East of the border with Wales. Under the pastoral scheme that created our United Parish, the formal name of the parish is:
"The Parish of The Mid-Wyedean Churches of All Saints Newland and Staunton; Good Shepherd, Broadwell; Saint John, Coleford; Saint Peter, Clearwell and Saint Saviour, Redbrook"
The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. However, in March 2019 the Bishops Council authorised an amendment to the interim constitution, changing the rules that had stood for the first 5 years of us being a united parish. Each congregation is now able to be better represented on the PCC. All

church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC if they are over 16 years of age. Relevant officers attend Diocesan training events for Church Wardens and Treasurers.
The Mid-Wyedean PCC has a Standing Committee and a Finance Committee. Membership of the Standing Committee comprises the Incumbent, Parish Church Warden and Assistant Wardens, PCC Secretary, and Treasurer. The Finance Committee includes the same members and two additional representatives, nominated by local congregations and ratified by the PCC.
Each congregation has an EMEP Local Minister (lay or ordained), a Local Warden and an informal LCC (Local Congregation Council) who can feed in information and raise issues to the PCC. They can also receive suggestions and requests from the PCC for consideration or action - reflecting our commitment to a local expression of Christian community.

11.2 Management and administration

Locations

Church of the Good Shepherd, Church Walk, North Road, Broadwell, GL16 7BN (https://goo.gl/maps/2biCZDCryRFHMALb8)
St Peter, Church Street, Clearwell, Coleford, GL16 8LF (https://goo.gl/maps/YDunqoUKqqTHRJau5)
All Saints, Almshouse Road, Newland, Coleford, GL16 8NL (https://goo.gl/maps/ywE8M6EQKbAnwuKb7)
St Saviour, Redbrook Road, Redbrook, NP25 4LY (https://goo.gl/maps/48ky2YFyjVTn7HEJ8)
All Saints, Staunton Road, Staunton, Coleford, GL16 8NU (https://goo.gl/maps/98bB4z7qEukNEuSQ7)
Cemetery Chapel, High Street, Clearwell, Coleford, GL16 8JS (closed) (https://goo.gl/maps/SaWWtoKP1Tt2F2Je6)
Mustard Tree meetings are held at St John's Church of England Primary Academy, Bowen Hill Road, Coleford, GL16 8DU (https://goo.gl/maps/YCgj85WWfvNYP2DK6).
Various engagement activities, e.g. Holiday clubs and Games Night take place at Coleford Baptist Church, 27 Newland Street, Coleford, GL16 8AJ

Registered Charity Number

Our Registered Charity Number is 1132171.

11.3 Licensed staff team

(all are volunteers unless otherwise indicated)

Vicar (stipendiary)	Reverend Sarah Bick
Parish Assistant Priest (non-stipendiary)	Reverend Bea Erskine
Lay Readers	Mark Bick (Pioneer Reader)
	Denise Hogan

EMEP team

Reverend Sarah Bick - Coleford & Broadwell
Mark Bick - Redbrook
Denise Hogan - Staunton
Chris Young - Clearwell (Licensed Lay Leader, under EMEP scheme)
Reverend Robert Simpson (PTO) - Clearwell
Reverend Bea Erskine - Newland
Wendy Williams - Mustard Tree (Licensed Lay Leader, under EMEP scheme)

Pastoral Team

Jane Kidger, Wendy Williams, Maggie Cheadle, Sue Sparkes, Chris Young and Marian Ivens.

11.4 Licensed worship leaders

Fred Meek, Wendy Williams, Margaret Winter and Chris Young.

11.5 Retired clergy

The Parish is supported by Reverend Barry Coker, Reverend Robert Simpson and Reverend Alan Wearmouth, retired with PTO (permission to officiate from the Bishop of Gloucester).

11.6 Church Officers

Parish Wardens	Maggie Cheadle and Mark Bick
Assistant Wardens	Paul Miles – Staunton
	Rosemary Ward – Broadwell
	Mark Bick – Redbrook
	Vacant – Clearwell
	Vacant - Newland
PCC Secretary	Marian Ivens
Parish Treasurer	Rosemary Ward

Church Representatives

Daphne Baulcomb - Clearwell (elected 2019)
Betty Weaver - Clearwell (elected 2019)
Lou Miles - All Saints, Staunton (elected 2024)

Daniel Kidger - St John's, Coleford (elected 2019)
There are currently two elected member vacancies.

Deanery Synod Representatives	Susan Sparkes and Wendy Williams
Electoral Roll Officer	Jean Smith

11.7 Parish Administrators

The Parish Administrators during 2024 were:
Nicholas Dring (paid staff, funded by the PCC).

11.[1] Independent Examiner

Our Independent Examiner was Nicholas Scott.

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1132171

Report of the Trustees and

Unaudited Financial Statements

For The Year Ended 31st December 2024

for

Mid Wyedean Churches

Mid Wyedean Churches

Contents of the Financial Statements

For The Year Ended 31st December 2024

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Mid Wyedean Churches

Report of the Trustees
For The Year Ended 31st December 2024

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The promotion of the Christian faith and provision of Anglican worship within the area of the Mid-Wyedean Parish and providing appropriate support of and for parishioners.

Main activities

Providing religious services (including Baptisms, Funerals and Weddings and online services and activities), providing spiritual and administrative support to Parishioners and potential visitors and engaging in activities to support children, young people and those in need (e.g, St John's C of E Academy Gardening Club).

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

The charity generated a deficit of (£2,607) this year. The deficit in the year is largely due to the utilisation of Restricted Funds to undertake major church repairs (£26,417) funded by grants received in previous years. Unrestricted funds continue to feel the ongoing impact of increased energy costs, although these have fallen from their 2023 levels (£7,489 vs £11,385 (2023)). The additional costs of the Parish Administrator role (£10,472), borne by Unrestricted funds as they are no longer grant funded by the Diocese, were offset by the reduced level of Parish Share paid (£Nil vs £6,250 (2022)). The search for additional funding to fund the general activity of the Charity is ongoing. With the reduction in these and other costs, and an overall growth in Income (£62,486 vs £58,135 (2023)), the Unrestricted Funds are in a healthier position (£21,776 vs £14,062 (2023))

Reserves policy

The charity aims for a reserve balance in excess of 25% of the normal annual expenditure. Where there are substantial reserves of restricted funds, it will be the policy to attempt to use them for the purposes for which they were restricted. The mission and ministry of the Church will always be the main consideration. The main liabilities are for repairs to the 4 listed church buildings and burial grounds. Detailed maintenance plans are in place for each of the buildings. Each year we secure grants to cover programmes of work with the aim of putting each building in a secure and sustainable condition. There currently no redundancy liability for the administrator who is the only salaried staff member.

Going concern

As noted above, the unrestricted funds of the churches stand at £21,776 as at 31st December 2024 nearly recovering to the 2022 position, following the challenge of unique energy cost rises in 2023, although these continue to be a significant element of the Charity's expenditure.

Creating a balanced budget for 2024 with measures in place to carefully monitor income and expenditure against budget has been successful in its implementation, and the Trustees will continue with this effective approach. The budget includes a small contingency for emergency work to buildings and to cover any insurance excess. Beyond that, any work to buildings will be either covered from restricted funds or wait until grants can be secured. This will involve reallocating some designated funds. We continue to work to increase lettings at the two smaller and easier to heat churches having allowed for some increased energy costs offsetting the increased income. We have an on-going programme to review the viability of each building, aiming for full cost recovery wherever possible alongside finding solutions to any un-funded costs.

The Trustees consider that a going concern basis is still appropriate.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The Charity is controlled by the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure (1956) as amended and Church Representation Rules and constitutes an unincorporated charity. Trustees are ex officio and elected members of the Parochial Church Council ("PCC").

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees
Trustees are selected either by virtue of their office, or according to their knowledge and experience, which must be relevant to the specific needs of the charity at the time of recruitment.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
Registered Charity number 1132171

Principal address
Office 2, The Main Place
Old Station Way, Railway Drive
Coleford
Gloucestershire GL16 8RH

Trustees
D Baulcomb
M Bick
S Simmons
S Sparkes
D J Hogan
B Erskine
S Bick
J Simmons
B Weaver
Dr D J Kidger
R A Ward
L S Hayward
W Williams
E Ivens
L Miles
P Miles
M Cheadle

Independent Examiner
Nicholas Scott ACA
20 North Road
Broadwell
Gloucestershire
GL16 7DR

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 28th April 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

Sarah Bick

S Bick – Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Mid Wyedean Churches

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Mid Wyedean Churches
I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Mid Wyedean Churches (the Trust) for the year ended 31st December 2024.

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 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by Section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Nicholas Scott ACA
20 North Road
Broadwell
Gloucestershire
GL16 7DR

28th April 2025

Mid Wyedean Churches

Statement of Financial Activities
For The Year Ended 31st December 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 £	2023 £
INCOME & ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Grants, donations and legacies		33,503	20,597	**54,100**	62,342
Charitable activities					
Church activities		25,682	-	**25,682**	17,892
Trading activities	2	1,133	-	**1,133**	1,402
Investment income	3	960	4,251	**5,211**	3,768
Other income		1,208	0	**1,208**	1,914
Total Income		**62,486**	**24,848**	**87,334**	**87,318**
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities					
Church activities		23,409	39,871	**64,280**	73,418
Other		22,774	2,887	**25,661**	33,708
Total Expenditure		**47,183**	**42,758**	**89,941**	**107,126**
NET (EXPENDITURE)/INCOME		**15,303**	**(17,910)**	**(2,607)**	**(19,808)**
Transfers between funds	7	**(7,589)**	**7,589**	**-**	**-**
Net movement in funds		**7,714**	**(10,321)**	**(2,607)**	**(19,808)**
Total funds at 1 January 2024		**14,062**	**137,588**	**151,650**	**171,458**
Total funds at 31 December 2024		**21,776**	**127,267**	**149,043**	**151,650**

Mid Wyedean Churches

Statement of Financial Position
at 31st December 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 £	2023 £
CURRENT ASSETS					
Cash at bank		21,776	127,267	**149,043**	151,650
NET CURRENT ASSETS		**21,776**	**127,267**	**149,043**	**151,650**
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		**21,776**	**127,267**	**149,043**	**151,650**
NET ASSETS		**21,776**	**127,267**	**149,043**	**151,650**
FUNDS					
Unrestricted funds				21,776	14,062
Restricted funds				127,267	137,588
TOTAL FUNDS				**149,043**	**151,650**

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on April 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:

S Bick – Trustee

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements
The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income
All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities on a receipts basis.

Expenditure
Expenditure is accounted for on a payments basis under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Taxation
The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting
Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.
Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.
Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Church workers pension fund
The Mid-Wyedean Parish participates in the Pension Builder scheme of the Church Workers Pension Fund. The scheme is administered by the Church of England Pensions Board. Further information is available in a separate document.

2. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2024 £	2023 £
Fundraising events	**1,133**	**1,402**

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2024 £	2023 £
Dividends & Interest	**5,211**	**3,768**

4. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31st December 2024 nor for the year ended 31st December 2023.

Trustees' expenses

Trustees' expenses of £Nil were paid to D Hogan during the year (£146.00 - 2023)

5. STAFF COSTS

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2024	2023
Admin	**1**	**1**

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

6. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 £
INCOME & ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Grants, donations and legacies	36,545	25,797	**62,342**
Charitable activities			
Church activities	17,892	-	**17,892**
Trading activities	1,402	-	**-**
Investment income	429	3,339	**3,768**
Other income	1,867	47	**1,914**
Total Income	**58,135**	**29,183**	**87,318**
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Church activities	38,614	34,804	**73,418**
Other	30,762	2,946	**33,708**
Total Expenditure	**69,376**	**39,503**	**107,126**
NET (EXPENDITURE)/INCOME	**(11,241)**	**(8,567)**	**(19,808)**
Transfers between funds	**-**	**-**	**-**
Net movement in funds	**(11,241)**	**(8,567)**	**(19,808)**
Total funds at 1 January in each year	**25,303**	**146,155**	**171,458**
Total funds at 31 December in each year	**14,062**	**137,588**	**151,650**

7. **MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	As at 1 Jan 24 £	Net movement in Funds £	Transfers between funds £	As at 31 Dec 24 £
Unrestricted funds				
Unrestricted funds	588	11,852	(3,173)	**9,267**
Designated funds	13,474	3,451	(4,416)	**12,509**
Total Unrestricted	**14,062**	**15,303**	**(7,589)**	**21,776**
Restricted Funds				
Restricted funds	137,588	(17,910)	**7,589**	**127,267**
TOTAL FUNDS	**151,650**	**(2,607)**	**-**	**149,043**

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

		Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
Unrestricted funds		**58,365**	**(46,513)**	**11,852**
Designated funds		**4,121**	**(670)**	**3,451**
Total Unrestricted		**62,486**	**(47,183)**	**15,303**
Restricted Funds				
Restricted funds		**24,848**	**(42,758)**	**(17,910)**
TOTAL FUNDS		**87,344**	**(89,941)**	**(2,607)**

Comparatives for movements in funds:

	As at 1 Jan 23 £	Net movement in Funds £	Transfers between funds £	As at 31 Dec 23 £
Unrestricted funds				
Unrestricted funds	13,691	(10,191)	(2,912)	**588**
Designated funds	11,612	(1,050)	2,912	**13,474**
Total Unrestricted	**25,303**	**(11,241)**	**-**	**14,062**
Restricted Funds				
Restricted funds	146,155	(8,567)	**-**	**137,588**
TOTAL FUNDS	**171,458**	**(19,808)**	**-**	**151,650**

7. **MOVEMENT IN FUNDS (cont.)**

Comparative (2023) net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:			
	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
Unrestricted funds	**57,827**	**(68,018)**	**(10,191)**
Designated funds	**308**	**(1,358)**	**(1,050)**
Total Unrestricted	**58,135**	**(69,376)**	**(11,241)**
Restricted Funds			
Restricted funds	**29,183**	**(37,750)**	**(8,567)**
TOTAL FUNDS	**87,138**	**(107,126)**	**(19,808)**

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:			
	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
Unrestricted funds	116,192	(114,531)	**1,661**
Designated funds	4,429	(2,028)	**2,401**
Total Unrestricted	**120,621**	**(116,559)**	**4,062**
Restricted Funds			
Restricted funds	54,031	(80,508)	**(26,477)**
TOTAL FUNDS	**174,652**	**(197,067)**	**(22,415)**

The Parochial Church Council has been using the cashbook system provided by the Diocese of Gloucester which allows the Treasurer to track by bank account, income/expenditure code but also by Parish Fund Code (PFC). The use of the PFCs makes it possible to track a range of restricted and designated funds that may be held within one or more bank accounts. The PFC balances should equal the bank account balances. The accuracy does depend on the correct categorisation of every transaction as Unrestricted, Designated or Restricted.

8. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

The following related party transactions occurred during the year:

		2024 £	2023 £
E Weaver	Organist Fees	860	574
D Hogan	Minister's Fees + Expenses (Various)	1,349	1,638
M Bick	Expenses (Various)	17	372
D Baulcomb	Verger's Fees	464	470
W Williams	Expenses (Various)	128	105
S Sparkes	Expenses (Various)	60	123
R Ward	Verger's Fees	116	110
S Bick	Sabbatical activity + Expenses (Various)	2,216	3,148
L Miles	Verger's Fees	232	-

The transactions noted above relate to expenses incurred by Trustees or Fees paid to Trustees for carrying out activity on behalf of the Charity in the normal course of business e.g. officiating at Weddings / Funerals etc., and are not recompense for any activities that relate specifically to their roles and responsibilities as Trustees.

Mid Wyedean Churches

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
For the Year Ended 31st December 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
INCOME & ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Tax efficient planned giving	**17,176**	17,884
Donations	**11,009**	10,737
Gift Aid	**5,198**	5,021
Legacies	**1,000**	-
Grants	**19,716**	28,700
	54,100	62,342
Other trading activities		
Fundraising events	**1,133**	1,402
Investment Income		
Dividends & Interest	**5,211**	3,768
Charitable activities		
Hall lettings	**3,373**	1,420
Bookstall & magazine sales	**537**	150
Parochial fee income	**18,190**	14,485
	22,099	16,055
Other Income		
Other income	**4,791**	3,751
Total Income	**87,344**	**87,318**
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Wages	**10,472**	14,050
Fund raising costs	**4**	71
Donations & Grants	**357**	806
Church running expenses	**1,921**	4,203
Churchyard maintenance	**5,945**	5,754
Mission & Evangelism	**4,279**	1,618
Clergy expenses	**2,406**	3,415
Parochial Fees	**7,416**	7,307
Child / Youth Work	**481**	828
Parish Share	**-**	6,250
	33,281	44,302
Other activities		
Major church repairs	**26,417**	27,488
Routine Maintenance	**4,957**	4,327
	31,374	31,815
(Analysis continued on following page)		

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
For the Year Ended 31st December 2024 (cont.)

						2024 £		2023 £
(continued from previous page)								
Support costs								
Rates and water						**268**		325
Insurance						**11,125**		11,124
Light & heat						**7,489**		11,385
Music costs						**951**		644
Cleaning						**1,545**		1,391
Admin costs						**3,908**		4,640
						25,286		29,509
Governance costs								
Accountancy and legal fees						**-**		1,500
Total resources expended						**89,941**		107,126
Net (Expenditure) / Income						**(2,607)**		(19,808)

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF MID-WYEDEAN CHURCHE

England & Wales - Charity number 1132171

Accounts

Mid-Wyedean
Churches

Annual Parochial Church Council Meeting

Sunday 30th April, 2023



Photo: community art at St Saviour's, Redbrook

2022 Report

Welcome.

Friend and stranger, young and old, all are welcome here. As followers of Jesus, our journey of faith is one of love, compassion and justice for all.

Thank you.

We would like to say a huge thank you to everyone involved in compiling this report and all your many and varied contributions throughout the year. Thanks as well to our regular congregations who are the life and soul of our churches and meeting places, newcomers who have pitched in from the start and all those who have generously contributed when attending church for weddings, baptisms and funerals or whilst passing through our beautiful area as visitors. Thanks to all our Parish volunteers, volunteers from the community including The Friends of Newland Church and our valued ecumenical partners. Coleford Baptist Church, thank you so much for being our hosts and companions in our journey of faith. Thanks to our professional contractors and specialists who have helped us look after our buildings and have themselves been generous with their time and invoicing! Thank you to Bishop Rachel, Archdeacon Hilary and Reverend Ros Greenhalgh for coming to visit, encourage, support and teach us in 2022 and 2023. Thank you to our schools, Clearwell Church of England Primary School, Redbrook C of E Primary School and St John's C of E Primary Academy in Coleford, who allow us to use their school for Mustard Tree.

Reverend Sarah Bick and the Mid-Wyedean Churches PCC

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1 Executive summary

1.1 Charity aims and purposes

The primary objective of Mid-Wyedean Churches Parochial Church Council (PCC) is the promotion of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England. The PCC has the responsibility of cooperating with the Incumbent, Reverend Sarah Bick, in promoting the whole mission of the Church within and beyond the ecclesiastical parish and working with ecumenical partners. The Anglican Communion has agreed on these marks of mission:

- To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom of God
- To teach, baptise and nurture new believers
- To respond to human needs by loving service
- To seek to transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and to pursue peace and reconciliation
- To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth.

The Church of England is a broad church, containing within it differing views and approaches to the promotion of the Gospel. Mid-Wyedean Churches PCC has adopted a position of explicit inclusion, valuing the presence and God-given gifts of people of all ages, abilities, ethnicities, genders, sexual orientations and social backgrounds. We believe this is vital to our Christian mission in the 21st Century and entirely consistent with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. To support our convictions regarding inclusion, we also highly value the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults. We seek to serve all the residents of our parish, whether in town, village or rural locations. Responsible stewardship of all the gifts God has given us is important in fulfilling our mission. This includes care for creation: environmental concerns such as our carbon footprint impact all our decision-making.

The PCC is also specifically responsible for the care of the five church buildings within the united Parish, and the cemetery chapel at Clearwell, and seeks the best use of those

buildings to fulfil the mission of the church for the benefit of the communities in which they are found.

1.2 Objectives and activities

Our parish encompasses a number of distinct geographical communities, some with church buildings, but all of which we seek to serve. To fulfil our purposes as a multi-church parish, we aim to hold governance and broad strategy at the parish level but deliver mission and ministry at the community level. Rather than seeking to consolidate in the centre (known as the Minster Model), we value the presence and potential growth of worshipping communities and effective ministry in every place, facilitated by a local minister (lay or ordained) acting as a team leader in each of our congregations. The EMEP (Effective Ministry in Every Place) team forms the leadership team of the United Parish, under the oversight of the Incumbent.

Parish Review process

The Parish Review process begun in 2021 promised to be helpful in developing a forward vision for the Parish. However, the follow-up of this process has stalled at the redirection of our Bishops. In part, this is due to the ongoing Deanery Strategic Review, which it was hoped would have been completed in November 2022. That process is also taking longer than anticipated. The Parish hopes to be able to revisit the work done on the Parish Review in 2023. The circumstances that gave rise to the review have not changed. Parish finances in general are very fragile, exacerbated by the energy price hikes of the latter part of the year. Also, the lack of external funding for the administrator post that the Parish feels is so vital to our ongoing success continues to offer us a dilemma. During 2022, the PCC took the decision to aim to support that role out of parish funds if need be, until the end of 2024. However, the increase in other costs will have an impact on our ability to do so.

Volunteers and gifts in kind

Except for the Incumbent and the Parish Administrator, all ministry and community service is offered by volunteers, including all the local ministers. The time and talents they and others

offer are invaluable and the ministry of the church would be significantly diminished without them.

St John's Church of England Academy kindly supports Mustard Tree to meet at the school without charging for the use of the premises.

1.3 Highlights and challenges

This year, the direct impacts of Covid 19 experienced in previous years led to the aftermath. Overall, attendance is significantly down, as are visitor numbers to our open churches. That said, different communities have fared very differently. Both All Saints Churches, in Newland and Staunton, are faring very well with increased attendance and community support. St Peter's Clearwell, which also has the issue of no heating, has done very well on special services but less well for regular worship, which took place in the summer months only. St Saviours Redbrook has been the worst hit, resulting in suspending services on a Sunday, but with community work continuing strongly. The Good Shepherd Broadwell congregation has also diminished in number, but not in heart!

We have also had the energy price inflation and cost of living crisis this year, affecting both us as Church and the communities we serve. We were much better placed to offer "cool places" in the summer heatwave than warm spaces in the mercifully not-too-cold winter! But we have teamed up with Coleford Baptist in their warm space to offer hospitality, hot food, friendship and fun.

Funding the administrator post is no longer covered by any grant and so is being covered by parish funds. This is a situation which will need to be kept under review.

In summary - our challenges are around resources: financial and human, in terms of numbers of people and therefore our finite capacity of time and energy.

Our strengths are also human (and divine)! Human, in the wonderful, faithful, servant-hearted, creative people of this parish, for whom we thank God daily.

2 Parish Warden's Report - Rosemary Ward with contributions from Local Ministry Teams

All Saints, Newland

Local minister: Reverend Bea Erskine, Parish Assistant Curate



All Saints Church, Newland, November 2022

[1]

Church services

Attendance at regular services is a little higher and there have been some local baptisms and weddings over the last year and a half which have brought the community together and

[1] Photo: Rachel Reeves

helped to emphasise the importance of the church in the community. Christmas and Easter services were well attended as usual.

Sustainability

A sustainability report was received and discussed with the Diocesan Advisory Committee, Friends of Newland Church and the Architect (Toby Falconer). The Friends, in consultation with the PCC, are looking to participate in a wider vision for future projects, and the sustainability of the church and the whole community. We have made a good start. Volunteers from the wider community have helped to establish more wildflower areas, bringing greater ecological diversity to the churchyard.

Building matters

Restoration of the internal War Memorial is in hand, with permissions and quotations in the pipeline. We are grateful for the support of the Friends and Royal British Legion representatives in this task. Our Quinquennial Inspection was completed in September and the recommended works form part of the scope of works for consideration by the Friends.

Community events

The Platinum Jubilee of HM Queen Elizabeth II celebrations inside and outside the churchyard were very well attended throughout the day, with all the community involved. Jenny Wren Productions returned with A Midsummer Night's Dream, with an audience of approximately 120 in early August, which was a big success. The Christmas production from This is My Theatre was also well attended, despite the cold!

Newland Village volunteers and The Friends of Newland Church

The children's play area and the flowers are now being looked after and provided by various people in the village on a regular basis. The Churchyard Spring and Autumn clear-up days continue to be very well supported, not only clearing where necessary but also helping to establish more wildflower areas and greater ecological diversity in the churchyard.

We are extremely grateful to the Friends who have paid for:

- Regular grass cutting and raising further funds to manage the churchyard
- Wi-Fi in the church
- Extensive tree surgery works were undertaken in the church in September

The Friends are also looking to renew the tarmac paths in the churchyard and make the entrance to the porch suitable for all access needs.

Visitors

Visitor numbers seem to be holding up to pre-pandemic levels, i.e. in the region of 17K per annum.

Giving

The card reader in the church has taken approximately £750 in payments over a 12-month period. This represents a steady increase since its installation



[2]

[2] Photo: Rachel Reeves

All Saints, Staunton

Local minister: Denise Hogan, Lay Reader



[3]

Staunton Church seems to be going quite well now. A couple of new families have moved into the village and are coming to church. The numbers seem to be growing with a few children coming along. The children's corner seems to please the children, which allows parents and carers to enjoy the service.

Services

On 23rd January, we tried a traditional Evensong. Twelve of us came. Betty Weaver from the St Peter's Clearwell congregation kindly played the organ for us.

[3] Photo: Rachel Reeves

The first Pet Service of the year in July was very well attended with sixteen adults, nine dogs, one cat and a tortoise. We had tea and cake afterwards whilst Fred the dog did his tricks again, which was much appreciated. It was great fun and a lovely time was had by all who came. Many people asked when we are having the next service.

It has been rather quiet at Staunton since September. There was a poor turnout for All Souls and Remembrance Sunday. Conversely, on Sunday 27th November, there was a large turnout for the second Pet Service of the year - the best yet.

We stopped over the Winter, but are now offering Night Prayer in the church when it is light enough on the first Wednesday of every month. The numbers are growing slowly, but there is a lovely atmosphere.

The Benefice Service was also well attended by people from across the Parish, with Betty playing the organ once again and refreshments served afterwards.

Visitors and community

The Church is open daily with tea, coffee and cold drinks available. We do get lots of walkers and they have been glad of a rest and a cup of tea plus a chance to cool down, especially in hot weather. We are also offering a book exchange; this also seems to be going well.

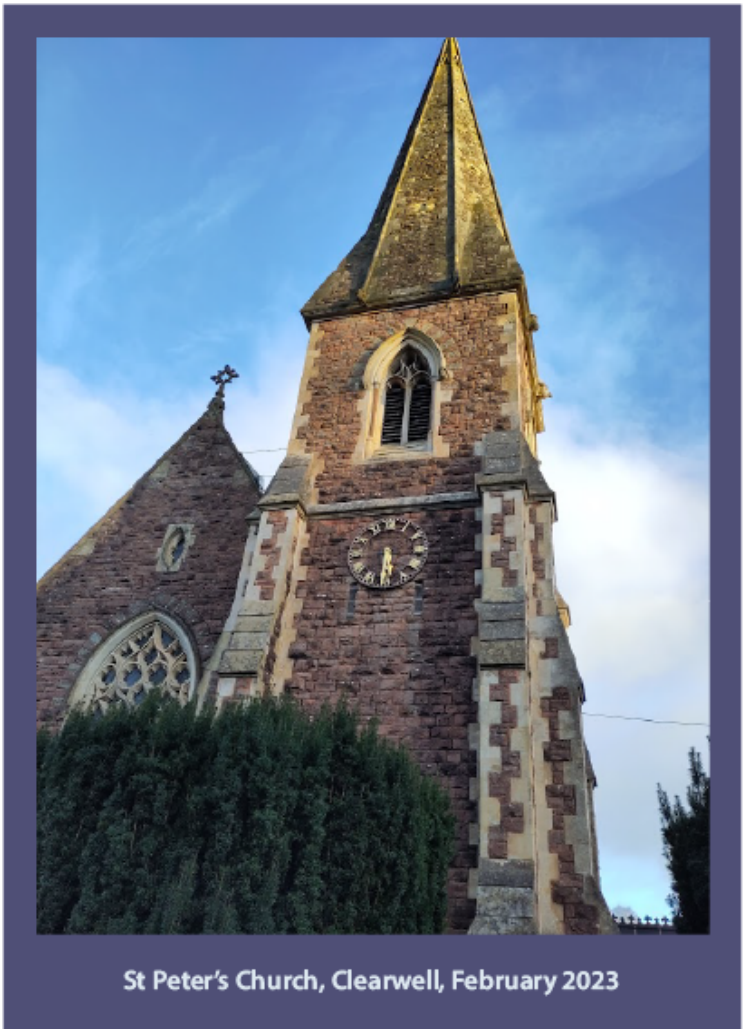
Building works

A window has been blown out, but no glass has broken, it has been put back in but needs some attention.

The clock has been repaired but is still continually going wrong. However, on the last occasion, someone from the village was able to get it going again.

St Peter’s Clearwell and the Clearwell Cemetery Chapel

Local ministers: Christine Young and Reverend Robert Simpson (Permission To Officiate) retired)



St Peter’s Church, Clearwell, February 2023

[4]

Services

Services resumed for the summer months of 2022. The first service at St Peter’s was on Easter Sunday. There were two services per month taking place over the summer until October. They weren't all completely on the weeks that you would expect according to the

[4] Photo: Rachel Reeves

whole Parish schedule, but this was to accommodate the dates that Robert and Chris were able to offer, whilst making sure that the church does have two services per month.

'Open the Book' continues to be offered by Robert and Chris to Clearwell Church of England Primary School on a Tuesday afternoon.

Clearwell had a wonderful and well-attended Remembrance Sunday service with the different branches of the Scout and Guide movements in attendance. Christmas Carols and Eucharist took place on 18th December, with some of the wider community attending.

Weddings and donations

We have had several weddings this year. St Peter's is a popular church to get married in, due to its proximity to Clearwell Castle. Following queries at wedding services as to whether it is possible to make donations using a card, the Parish invested in a Sum-Up card reader to facilitate card donations at weddings. The machine also has other potential uses around the Parish.

Building matters

There was quite substantial damage done following February's storms in 2022. The roof has been fixed, but there is still some water ingress damage inside the church. We are awaiting information from Toby Falconer, the architect and from Ecclesiastical Insurance about getting this finally sorted out.

Patches of the lath-and-plaster decorative ceiling have been coming down in the North aisle. Alan met up with Toby Falconer and Laura Stevens (local specialist in historic decorative restoration), to discuss the damage. For the time being, the advice received from them is that the liturgical North aisle pews should not be used to preserve public safety.

The medium-term solution would be to install netting along the length of that set of pews under the ceiling to catch any further falls. The falls are a result of natural ageing and deterioration plus possible water ingress in the past. As such, they are unlikely to be covered by insurance. As there is little prospect of Mid-Wyedean Churches being able to pay for

restoration, and possibly not for netting either, it may be that we simply must accept that the capacity and use of the Church will be limited for the foreseeable future. The long-term solution will be a full-scale restoration which would have to be a fully grant-funded exercise at great cost and with permission from the Deanery Advisory Committee. The storm-damaged ceiling improved as it dried out and it seems unnecessary in view of our financial and human resources to try to insist on a costly repair.

Fund-raising

A very successful fashion show raised over £800 which more than covers the insurance excess for the work on the roof. Another is planned for 2023.

Churchyard and Cemetery

At a recent Parish Council Climate Response Group meeting, some interest was shown in helping to create areas of biodiversity in the churchyard and cemetery. The missing piece of the puzzle is someone to lead on this work.

St Saviour's, Redbrook

Local minister: Mark Bick, Pioneer Lay Reader



Apprentices and locals, Masonry Project, Redbrook

[5]

Worship and Mission

Attendance at fortnightly services dropped right down early by 2022 compared with pre-Covid levels so regular services were suspended. Festival services are reasonably well attended and meant that we could engage with some new people. For Christmas 2022, we were joined by members of the two village community choirs which worked well and we hope to repeat this for Easter 2023. Weekly school "Open the Book" sessions for Redbrook C of E Primary School are led by School Governor Mari Hutchings and retired teacher

[5] Photo: Mark Bick

Bernadette Kilty. Mark continues to engage with the Civic Parish Council Climate Group and attends one of the choirs and other activities in the village.

Building matters

The chancel arch re-plastering and painting were completed early in 2022.

Damp had been getting in around the sanctuary gable and window causing flaking paint and stonework inside. External and internal repairs are being carried out, funded by the National Churches Trust, Kempe Trust and Sabina Sutherland Trust. This includes new window protection (which will let it have a lot more light) and should be finished by June 2023.

The kitchen faculty was secured in August 2022 nearly a full year after the application and far too late for Mark to have any capacity to apply for funds to implement the full scheme. A temporary kitchen remains in place and is being used.

Legionella checks and a Fire Risk Assessment have been carried and ongoing plans are in place.

Masonry Training Weekend

Following the success of the 2021 Masonry Training Weekend, a second one was held in September, with funding from participants, Gloucestershire Historic Churches Trust and Redbrook Village Trust. We had a total of 14 people including 10 Cathedral apprentices from Durham, York, Worcester, Gloucester and Salisbury. A lot of good work was done to severely eroded masonry at ground level at the back of the church. Some trainees stayed overnight in the church. It was a success, so plans are underway to run the course again in September 2023.

Churchyard

Local volunteers have cut back undergrowth in the churchyard and repainted the shed and fence. Some of this work was linked to our involvement in the Wye River Festival.

Repairs were carried out to the front churchyard retaining wall. Towards the end of the year, funds were secured from County Council, Diocesan Mission Fund and Redbrook Village Trust to develop the churchyard for biodiversity and outdoor education activities. While clearing undergrowth for activities with the children, partially buried asbestos tiles were found at the back of the churchyard. It is likely that they were fly-tipped many years ago from the road above. One was sent for testing and confirmed, safe disposal was arranged and a management plan is in place. That particular area (behind the school) cannot now be used by the children, which is very disappointing.

Use of the building

The school next door continues to use the building for PE, Open the Book and some other activities but has cut back due to budget constraints.

Kingfishers Chorus community choir continue to meet on Wednesday nights.

Jubilee Pageant rehearsals and River Festival workshops took place from April to June. We have had some great banners flying outside and colourful swallows on the newly painted mower shed.

There was an exhibition of photos on the theme of human interaction with nature - as part of the Wye Valley River Festival.

The Youth Club ran fortnightly in the first part of the year, but since Charlotte (Butcher) left we have not been able to get sufficient leaders. There is some potential funding in place.

We are developing a food-based project, including restarting family-friendly Music Nights.

We are collaborating with others to provide kindling to those in fuel poverty.

Plans for further development of the Creative Hub are on hold due to the capacity constraints of those involved.

The huge hikes in energy costs and budget restraints for the school have been substantial limiting factors in the last part of the year.

The Good Shepherd, Broadwell

Local minister: Reverend Sarah Bick, Parish Incumbent



The Good Shepherd, Broadwell, November 2022

[6]

Volunteer working party

In January a meeting was held by members of the Good Shepherd to discuss where to start. Our first job was to tidy out the organ cupboard and the kitchen. We set a date for a working party for 26th February and a great deal of work was achieved then.

[6] Photo: Reverend Jason Bourne, Bishop's Chaplain

Building works

We haven't made any progress on the repair of the Good Shepherd and we are investigating the best way to go ahead with this, although Steve Cooper did come to repair, and strengthen, and added extra locks to the Organ cupboard so now we have a safe room. Advice from a local surveyor and DAC member Simon Moore suggests that until we can make a stronger case for community use of the Good Shepherd building, a more minimal programme of repairs should be attempted in the first instance. We hope to progress this in 2023.

Activities and Fundraising

Mid-Wyedean Craft Club meets at The Good Shepherd most Thursday afternoons from 2-4 pm. Numbers fluctuate each week, but with new members this year, the average is 5-6 people. The Craft Club is an opportunity for anyone who has an interest in any craft to come and share a time of friendship, fellowship, fun, swapping of ideas, advice and practical help. The cost is £2 per session and refreshments are provided: "...all are welcome here"!

In November 2022 we held our first ever Christmas Craft Fayre at the Good Shepherd. It was a great success and approximately £400 was raised for Church funds. A further £75 was raised for Mustard Tree. It is our intention to have another Christmas Fayre on November 11th 2023.

A tea dance was held on the 4th of June for the Platinum Jubilee weekend.

Coffee and Chat meets at the church on the first Thursday of the month. This is a lovely event which reaches out to the local community.

Reverend Sarah started a baby and toddlers group that met once a week; this was extremely successful and well attended between April and July and in September and October. However, in the winter, numbers dwindled as the building was not warm! We will try widening the event to incorporate older folks wanting to drop in for coffee and cake. This is inspired by Sling Club who do something similar, thus heating the building once for multiple purposes. We will run this as a trial and see if it takes off. We are well aware that the

Salvation Army just up the road is, in all honesty, better placed to offer a cafe-type drop into the local community though.

The Annual General meeting was held at the Good Shepherd on the 24th of April 2022
The Good Shepherd is also used regularly for church meetings attended by the PCC, committees and EMEP team.

Discipleship and services

Under our post-Pandemic worship pattern, there is a service every week at the Good Shepherd, two of which are whole benefice services with no other service offered in the parish on those weeks.

Highlights include:

- Families from Mustard Tree coming, early on in the year, to lead a service that included a baptism
- The Harvest Festival in October, which was well attended and raised £48
- Bishop Rachel came to the Good Shepherd on 6th November, which was a lovely service with participation from Mustard Tree. Bishop Rachel really enjoyed their input into the service.

Our All-Souls Service was very poorly attended this year and we did not have a Remembrance Service as the main Remembrance was held at the Clock Tower in Coleford. However, for those wishing to attend, a joint Café-style service was held at Coleford Baptist Church in the evening and this was well attended.

A Lent Course was held at the Good Shepherd on Hope and Redemption and The Greatest Showman.

Future plans

At one LCC meeting, we discussed what needed to be done for the fabric of the building and made a list of all the jobs that need doing to prioritise them. Some small tasks were completed this year, but we hope many more will be completed in 2023.

Coleford Town: Mustard Tree

Mustard Tree meets on the third Sunday of the month during term time from 3.30 to 5.30 pm at St John's C of E Primary Academy in Coleford.

During the summer of 2022, the meetings took place outside due to the continuation of some Covid 19 restrictions. For this reason, we asked families to bring their own picnics. We did a variety of outdoor activities, including the collection and identification of leaves, flowers etc, trail-finding and fun outdoor games. We included a Worship session based on the theme of God's wonderful creation.

On the last meeting of the summer term, we arranged a big barbeque with games and activities at St John's Academy, still based on the creation theme…i.e. Putting the birds in the nest in a tree instead of 'pin the tail on the donkey'!

During the summer holidays, we kept in touch with the families by arranging ad-hoc picnics with games.

In the Autumn Term, we were able to go back into school with the full backing of the Head Teacher. Our first planning meeting of the term was extremely well attended by parents and volunteers who were glad to be able to share a meal, company and the support of each other in person. This had been really missed during the Pandemic.

The theme for the Autumn Term 2022 was 'Love' and the love and support of the whole Mustard Tree family are key to our following Jesus' commandment to 'love one another'. This love is encapsulated by our motto, 'Family, Faith, Food and Fun'.

We have now linked up with Aunty Mary's, which is the Baptist Church's response to working with families and our Autumn Half Term Holiday Club was run jointly at the Baptist Church and attracted 25-30 people most days.

During the Autumn Term, Mustard Tree children took on the responsibility of welcoming the baptism families at The Good Shepherd. For the first baptism, they acted the story of

Nehemiah and sang a welcoming song: ‘We’re all in this together’. The children also performed for Bishop Rachel’s visitation in October.

We shared a couple of Christmas celebrations with the Baptist Church, including a Christingle service and a Christmas lunch.

Training and development

During the last year, various volunteers have taken up training to help in their work at Mustard Tree, including Safeguarding, Domestic Violence and Food Hygiene. To develop our skills further, some of us have worked with Jonathan Kear on Prayer Stations and Messy Church Goes Outside at Viney Hill Activities Centre.

These performances led the Mustard Tree leaders to think about a new branch of Mustard Tree and about a play that would deliver our theme of love for everyone. We chose The Ugly Duckling and started work on it in January 2023.

Help and support

We are very grateful to our volunteers, ecumenical partners and for the ongoing support and goodwill of members of our congregations who have generously donated money and all kinds of helpful resources.

Coleford Town: St John's Academy

For the first part of the year, Reverend Sarah continued to lead school worship fortnightly via a recorded session for children and teachers to watch in class bubbles. She continues to serve on the governing body and assists with curriculum Religious Education and staff training. The school received an OFSTED inspection with a ‘Good’ rating during the year. Pam Howells, who led the school through this time as Head Teacher, retired at the end of the school year, having achieved this success with her team.

In September, Joanne Peaper, Deputy Head and Special Educational Needs Coordinator, stepped into the role of Acting Head. Also in September, post-Covid, the school chose to re-open to external visitors. Consequently, in-person worship leading recommenced, with Reverend Sarah visiting the school fortnightly on Thursdays.

The previous ecumenical Open the Book team members were not able to return and so we are discussing the formation of a new team.

The school has been wonderfully helpful in advertising Mustard Tree sessions now that they are able to be held once again at school.

Coleford Town: missional and ecumenical activities



The Main Place, Coleford, with visiting sheep

Holy Week and Easter

We held a series of ecumenically hosted and supported events over the long weekend, beginning with a 'Last Supper' meal on Maundy Thursday evening, hosted by Shalom Network and held at Coleford Baptist Church. The Good Friday Walk of Witness began at St Margaret Mary RC Church and gathered at the Clock Tower for a dramatised reading of the Passion and a time of worship. We had hoped to put on an Easter Vigil concert on the Saturday evening, however, planning and rehearsal time ran away with us, so that was shelved for this year. However, we did go ahead with the Easter Egg Hunt and family activities held at Bells Field and led by Reverend Phil from the Mount of Olives with contributions from the Mustard Tree team. We hope to build on this for next year.

Civic Events

The now regular events of the St George's Day and Remembrance Sunday Parade and Service took place in April and November respectively, with a much more deliberately coordinated ecumenical presence - and notably Anglicans and Baptists taking leadership roles. In addition of course, the respective celebration and commemoration of HM Queen's Platinum Jubilee and the funeral of HM Queen Elizabeth II were also significant events held at Coleford Clock Tower in concert with the Mayor Nick Penny and Coleford Town Council. These events were tremendously well attended by local people. Indeed, even residents of other Forest towns came along. We are very fortunate to have a Mayor of Coleford when putting on such events, as even at short notice he was willing to take part.

Music festival

A Coleford + Christians Together worship band took part in the Music Festival this year, with players and singers from Mid-Wyedean, Christchurch, Coleford Baptists and apologies from a member of the Mount of Olives who suddenly found himself in New York at the time of the event! The impromptu band offered a programme of mixed sacred and secular music related to love and belonging. We had a slot on the Sunday afternoon at 1 pm before the

official start at 2 pm. It seemed to go down very well with those who heard! Thanks again to Nick Penny for facilitating this by asking his backstage crew to work an extra hour.

Warm space

Energy prices and general cost of living hikes have prompted all sorts of organisations including churches to look at offering warm spaces and hot meals to local communities. We don't have a warm space (!) but we can do hot meals, so we teamed up with Coleford Baptist Church to offer a night of board games and films, hot food and friendly chat on Fridays 5-7 pm, sometimes later. The Baptist Church offers the warm space, we cover food costs and volunteer time is shared. There is a small (but faithful) crowd accessing this service across the whole age range.

3 Parish Administrator and Parish Office

Parish Administrator

This post continues to be of significant importance to the Parish as the means of releasing those in leadership and ministry to focus on the mission of the church. The post-holders have managed the tasks of operational efficiency within the parish and facilitated communication between our geographically-spread groups and congregations. They have given direct administrative support to the large number of volunteers in middle leadership roles within the Parish, in particular, the EMEP team and the wardens and have supported our welcoming ethos and communication with the wider community.

Unfortunately, the grant funding that supported this post was discontinued in 2021, and hoped-for solutions to this loss have not transpired, so the ongoing possibility of maintaining this crucial post is currently subject to the fragility of overall parish finances. Charlotte Butcher, who was appointed in 2021, continued in the post until September 2022 and Rachel Reeves was recruited to fill the post.

Rachel says:

I was appointed in October 2022, taking over from Charlotte, who kindly agreed to come in for a hand-over after she had left. Originally a research scientist, I am well-acquainted with the voluntary sector, having volunteered since my student days and worked for several charities. I have training and skills in web and graphic design, disability support and awareness, community outreach and ecology and habitat management. Putting the latter to good use, I have equipped our sunny office with new plants to grow on the windowsill for fund-raising; hopefully providing a calm, welcoming space for visitors at the same time.

Parish Office

The office is in central Coleford, above the Public Library and has the advantages of a lift to the first floor, accessible toilets and level access to the building, so from a community point of view, it is ideal. It is one of several offices, some permanently rented out and some available for hire so there is always an interesting, productive and cooperative atmosphere - yet the office also offers a private space within the hub of the Coleford Community Enterprise Centre. Parish prayers are held here and it has proven a convenient place for people to call into. The office core hours are 9 am to 12 pm on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. It is often open until 3 pm, but we advise people to phone first as things need attending to around the Parish and the afternoons (especially Fridays) are reserved for this if needed.

Phone: 07933 935534

Email: office.midwyedean@gmail.com

Address: Office 2, Coleford Community Enterprise Centre, The Main Place, Old Station Way, Coleford GL16 8RH

4 Weddings, baptisms and funerals

These figures were prepared by Parish Warden Rosemary Ward and Rachel Reeves.

Church	Baptism			Weddings	Funerals	
	Infants	Children	Adults		Church or crematorium	Interment only
Broadwell	4	3	1	0	26	0
Clearwell	1	1	2	12	6	2
Newland	1	2	0	1	2	1
Redbrook	0	0	0	0	0	0
Staunton	0	0	0	0	0	1

St Peter's in Clearwell remains our most popular church for weddings. Baptisms are generally carried out on the second Sunday of the month at The Good Shepherd, Broadwell, but in 2022, St Peter's, Clearwell and All Saints, Newland also hosted families for baptism.

5 Home/ community communions and visiting

Communions have resumed at the Coombs Care Home, led by Denise Hogan, Lay Reader, and assisted by Fred Meek. Home communions have started to build up again slowly. We now have a pastoral team comprising Jane Kidger, Denise Hogan, Wendy Williams and Marian Ivens, though people have been slow at taking up the offer of home visits post-Pandemic, whether for chat, prayer or communion.

6 Ecumenical Links – Reverend Sarah Bick

We continue to value our close links with Coleford Baptist Church, who have generously hosted events for us and support our work as well as hosting a shared service once a month, twice-weekly prayers, a joint Bible study with communion and lunch, Lent courses, a Mustard Tree holiday club, a meal reflecting on the Passover and the Last Supper, some of which made part of a wider ecumenical programme of events. (See Coleford Town entry above for events specifically around the Easter Weekend.)

Looking to the future, discussions have been taking place in an ecumenical context, especially with Coleford Baptists and the Forest RC Parish, regarding the possibility of working more closely together and sharing a church building. We are in the early stages but anticipate further developments in 2023. We said goodbye to a valued colleague in Father Barnabas Page this year and welcomed Father Frank Wainwright to Coleford as the new RC parish priest.

A Franciscan group regularly meets at The Good Shepherd, as does the Shalom Network.

7 Deanery Synod Report, Forest South Deanery – Sue Sparkes and Wendy Williams

There has been only one Deanery Synod meeting since our last APCM in 2022. It took place on October 18th 2022 at St James Church Centre in Bream. The attendance was very good with representatives from all the churches across the Forest South Deanery. Due to the fact that there is nobody currently in post as Area Dean, the meeting was chaired by Chris Witham, Lay Chair of the Deanery Synod. The focus of the meeting was the status of the Deanery Strategic Plan, the development of which has stalled since Covid-19.

Chris introduced Keith Elford, who has been appointed by Church House as a facilitator to work with four deaneries in the Gloucester Diocese including Forest South. Keith set out the process he intended to follow to speed up the development of the Plan. Previously, several rounds of discussion have taken place, but with Forest South still in the early stages of development, Keith was keen to find out what the main aims of the plan were and what obstacles stood in the way.

Small group discussions revealed that some common aims were:

1. To engage more with our communities and to serve them better. There are many communities in need in Forest South.
2. To share best practice across the deanery, something we are not very good at
3. To promote work with young people
4. To find more volunteers to step into the shoes of our ageing congregations
5. To develop our prayer groups
6. To share resources by opening up our buildings for community use if appropriate.

Following this discussion Keith outlined the next steps which included the formation of a steering group. A survey for parish priests and leaders would be sent out to gather views from the parishes. He hoped the Plan could be in place by May 2023.

The next meeting of Forest South Deanery Synod will take place on May 4th 2023 when the Deanery Strategic Plan is the main topic on the agenda.

8 Treasurer's Report - Reverend Alan Wearmouth

During 2022 the Policies regarding finance, fees and spending authorities were all revisited and, where appropriate, amended. The church accounts were kept using the Diocesan cashbook and were independently examined by Wildin & Co of Lydney. The accounts are presented for your inspection, having been adopted by the PCC at a meeting in 2023.

I would like to thank all those who have maintained and sometimes increased their giving in these difficult times. It remains the case that regular giving through the Parish Giving Scheme is the solid base of our income and I urge anyone reading this who can do so to join that scheme with its benefits in terms of ease of administration, effortless reclaiming of tax if gift-aided and reliable regularity of income. Our income gained through parochial fees (for weddings and funerals) is irregular and unreliable and this, although much higher than in the time of the pandemic, appears to be reducing from pre-pandemic times.

Our expenditure is hugely impacted by the number of church buildings for which we have responsibility with little external support. In 2022 the total spent on maintaining, preserving and using our buildings came close to £40,000 despite cost-saving measures including avoiding heating wherever possible by reducing services in the winter months. Insurance alone comes to around £10,000.

The PCC took the decision to maintain the post of Parish Administrator and to reduce the amount paid in Parish Share. The trend seen in 2022 implies that a further reduction in Parish Share will be necessary following 2023 – possibly a 100% reduction.

9 Hopes, Plans and Priorities for 2023

Some hopes and plans in each of our settings have been referenced above in each section, by local leaders. On a Parish-wide scale, and as themes across the different settings of the parish, we continue (post-Covid) to have the task of deepening the discipleship of our faithful church members. We seek to respond to community needs where we have the vision and resources ourselves, or in partnership with others. Underpinning everything we do is the need to be realistic about the human and financial resources that we have. An unending spiritual resource is ours! But that doesn't mean it is a given that, at any time we need them, material and human resources are equally abundant. We need, with God's help, to make discerning decisions about what we can do within our capacities of energy and money.

Whilst we are still subject at parish level to decisions made at other levels of our organisation, some possible priorities for 2023 include:

- growing back a programme of discipleship and social gatherings, for adults and families
- developing Friends groups for those of our churches that do not already have them
- making a case within our communities for their help in supporting basic running costs of our buildings
- seeking new funding for the parish administrator post
- pursuing further developments of sharing a church building with ecumenical friends in Coleford.

10 Safeguarding Report - Mark Bick

Safeguarding Officers

The Safeguarding Officer is Mark Bick who can be contacted on 01594 836418, 07815 459468 or by email: mark@markbick.co.uk. The deputy officer is the Vicar, Rev Sarah Bick who can be contacted on 01594 835476 or via email: vicar@mid-wyedeanchurches.co.uk. Should alternative assistance be desired, direct contact with Gloucester Diocese safeguarding team can be made: https://www.gloucester.anglican.org/about-us/safeguarding/.

The PCC has adopted the national Church of England safeguarding policy statement. Guidance, adapted to the needs of our parish, was adopted on Feb 26th 2020.

The new Parish Safeguarding Dashboard has proved challenging as we are now being asked to do a lot of extra things, not all of which are very useful e.g. all PCC members are supposed to do three different lots of online training! The system will not show me what is needed at the top level until we have completed the lower levels. I don't have the capacity to progress this or to do further updates to our policy.

Online training

The online training can be accessed at https://safeguardingtraining.cofeportal.org. You will then need to create a new account and receive an email to access the training.

Reporting concerns

Two safeguarding concerns were reported to Mark or Sarah in 2022, they were both reported to the Diocesan Safeguarding Team.

11 Mid-Wyedean Parish

Google Maps: https://goo.gl/maps/vxt9WWEqGm6jZVAQ6



[7]

[7] Map: Ink Squirrel www.inksquirrel.uk

11.1 Location and legal structure

The Parish of the Mid-Wyedean Churches is part of the Diocese of Gloucester within the Church of England and serves the town of Coleford in the Forest of Dean district of Gloucestershire and many of the surrounding villages on the western side of the Forest and East of the border with Wales. Under the pastoral scheme that created our United Parish, the formal name of the parish is:

"The Parish of The Mid-Wyedean Churches of All Saints Newland and Staunton; Good Shepherd, Broadwell; Saint John, Coleford; Saint Peter, Clearwell and Saint Saviour, Redbrook"

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. However, in March 2019 the Bishops Council authorised an amendment to the interim constitution, changing the rules that had stood for the first 5 years of us being a united parish. Each congregation is now able to be better represented on the PCC. All church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC if they are over 16 years of age. Relevant officers attend Diocesan training events for Church Wardens and Treasurers.

The Mid-Wyedean PCC has a Standing Committee and a Finance Committee. Membership of the Standing Committee comprises the Incumbent, Parish Church Warden and Assistant Wardens, PCC Secretary, and Treasurer. The Finance Committee includes the same members and two additional representatives, nominated by local congregations and ratified by the PCC.

Each congregation has an EMEP Local Minister (lay or ordained), a Local Warden and an informal LCC (Local Congregation Council) who can feed in information and raise issues to the PCC. They can also receive suggestions and requests from the PCC for consideration or action - reflecting our commitment to a local expression of Christian community.

11.2 Management and administration

Locations

Church of the Good Shepherd, Church Walk, North Road, Broadwell, GL16 7BN (https://goo.gl/maps/2biCZDCryRFHMALb8)

St Peter, Church Street, Clearwell, Coleford, GL16 8LF (https://goo.gl/maps/YDunqoUKqqTHRJau5)

All Saints, Almshouse Road, Newland, Coleford, GL16 8NL (https://goo.gl/maps/ywE8M6EQKbAnwuKb7)

St Saviour, Redbrook Road, Redbrook, NP25 4LY (https://goo.gl/maps/48ky2YFyjVTn7HEJ8)

All Saints, Staunton Road, Staunton, Coleford, GL16 8NU (https://goo.gl/maps/98bB4z7qEukNEuSQ7)

Cemetery Chapel, High Street, Clearwell, Coleford, GL16 8JS (closed) (https://goo.gl/maps/SaWWtoKP1Tt2F2Je6)

Mustard Tree meetings are held at St John's Church of England Primary Academy, Bowen Hill Road, Coleford, GL16 8DU (https://goo.gl/maps/YCgj85WWfvNYP2DK6).

Registered Charity Number

Our Registered Charity Number is 1132171.

11.3 Licensed staff team (all are volunteers unless otherwise indicated)

Vicar (stipendiary)

Reverend Sarah Bick

Parish Assistant Curate (non-stipendiary)

Reverend Bea Erskine

Lay Readers

Mark Bick (Pioneer Reader) and Denise Hogan

EMEP team

Reverend Sarah Bick - Coleford & Broadwell

Mark Bick - Redbrook

Denise Hogan - Staunton

Chris Young - Clearwell (Licensed Lay Leader, under EMEP scheme)

Reverend Robert Simpson - Clearwell

Reverend Bea Erskine - Newland

Wendy Williams - Mustard Tree (Licensed Lay Leader, under EMEP scheme)

Pastoral Team

Jane Kidger, Denise Hogan, Wendy Williams and Marian Ivens.

11.4 Licensed worship leaders

Fred Meek, Wendy Williams, Margaret Winter and Chris Young.

11.5 Retired clergy

The Parish is supported by Reverend Barry Coker, Reverend Robert Simpson and Reverend Alan Wearmouth, retired with PTO (permission to officiate from the Bishop of Gloucester).

11.6 Church Officers

Parish Warden

Rosemary Ward

Assistant Wardens

Susan Simmons - Staunton

PCC Secretary

Marian Ivens

Parish Treasurer

Reverend Alan Wearmouth

Church Representatives

Daphne Baulcomb - Clearwell (elected 2019)

Betty Weaver - Clearwell (elected 2019)

John Simmons - All Saints, Staunton (elected 2019)

Daniel Kidger - St John's, Coleford (elected 2019)

There are currently two elected member vacancies.

Deanery Synod Representatives

Susan Sparkes and Wendy Williams

Electoral Roll Officer

Susan Sparkes

11.7 Parish Administrators

The Parish Administrators during 2022 were Charlotte Butcher from September 2021 to September 2022 (paid staff, funded by grants and PCC funds) and Rachel Reeves from October 2022 (paid staff, funded by the PCC).

11.8 Independent Examiner

Our Independent Examiner was Lucy Clutterbuck of Wildin & Co (paid).

 [8]

[8] Platinum Jubilee celebration cake photo by Reverend Sarah Bick

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1132171

Report of the Trustees and

Unaudited Financial Statements

For The Year Ended 31st December 2022

for

Mid Wyedean Churches

Wildin and Co
Accountants
& Statutory Auditors
Kings Buildings
Lydney
Gloucestershire
GL15 5HE

Mid Wyedean Churches

Contents of the Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 31st December 2022

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Statement of Financial Position	5
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Detailed Statement of Financial Activities	11 to 12

Mid Wyedean Churches

Report of the Trustees
For The Year Ended 31st December 2022

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2022. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The promotion of the Christian faith and provision of Anglican worship within the area of the Mid-Wyedean Parish and providing appropriate support of and for parishioners.

Main activities

Providing religious services (including Baptisms, Funerals and Weddings and online services and activities), providing spiritual and administrative support to Parishioners and potential visitors and engaging in activities to support those in need (eg, Coleford Community Meals).

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

The charity generated a surplus of £29,307 this year. While the deficit in the previous year due to a significant amount of major church repairs.

Total income decreased in the year, as not so many grants were received. However income from church activities increased now that Covid restrictions have passed.

Available cash is being quickly used up by the Parish Administrator role that is no longer grant funded by the Diocese. The search for replacement funding is ongoing.

Reserves policy

The charity aims for a reserve balance in excess of 25% of the normal annual expenditure.

Where there are substantial reserves of restricted funds, it will be the policy to attempt to use them for the purposes for which they were restricted, with the mission and ministry of the Church being always the main consideration.

Going concern

The unrestricted funds of the churches stands at only £25,303 as at 31st December 2022 but the Trustees consider that a going concern basis is appropriate as funds required to cover future unrestricted costs are anticipated to be sufficient.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

Trustees are selected according to their knowledge and experience, which must be relevant to the specific needs ot the charity at the time of recruitment.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

1132171

Principal address

Office 2, The Main Place
Old Station Way
Railway Drive
Coleford
Gloucestershire
GL16 8RH

Mid Wyedean Churches

Report of the Trustees
For The Year Ended 31st December 2022

Trustees
D Baulcomb
M Bick
S Simmons
S Sparkes
D J Hogan
B Erskine
S Bick
J Simmons
B Weaver
Dr D J Kidger
R A Ward
L S Hayward
W Williams
E Ivens (appointed 24.4.22)

Independent Examiner
Carla Preece
FCCA
Wildin and Co
Accountants
& Statutory Auditors
Kings Buildings
Lydney
Gloucestershire
GL15 5HE

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 28th February 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

S Bick - Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Mid Wyedean Churches

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Mid Wyedean Churches
I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Mid Wyedean Churches (the Trust) for the year ended 31st 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 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by Section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Carla Preece
FCCA
Wildin and Co
Accountants
& Statutory Auditors
Kings Buildings
Lydney
Gloucestershire
GL15 5HE

28th February 2023

Mid Wyedean Churches

Statement of Financial Activities
For The Year Ended 31st December 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted fund £	**31.12.22 Total funds £**	31.12.21 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies		**34,071**	**67,590**	**101,661**	140,254
Charitable activities					
church activities		**25,364**	**-**	**25,364**	17,611
Other trading activities	2	**1,325**	**-**	**1,325**	-
Investment income	3	**31**	**537**	**568**	81
Other income		**3,034**	**2,928**	**5,962**	10,757
Total		**63,825**	**71,055**	**134,880**	168,703
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities					
church activities		**59,451**	**24,196**	**83,647**	123,346
Other		**6,619**	**15,307**	**21,926**	63,478
Total		**66,070**	**39,503**	**105,573**	186,824
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		**(2,245)**	**31,552**	**29,307**	(18,121)
Transfers between funds	7	**(3,334)**	**3,334**	**-**	-
Net movement in funds		**(5,579)**	**34,886**	**29,307**	(18,121)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		**30,882**	**111,269**	**142,151**	160,272
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		**25,303**	**146,155**	**171,458**	142,151

The notes form part of these financial statements

Mid Wyedean Churches

Statement of Financial Position
31st December 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted fund £	**31.12.22 Total funds £**	31.12.21 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS					
Cash at bank		**25,303**	**146,155**	**171,458**	142,151
NET CURRENT ASSETS		**25,303**	**146,155**	**171,458**	142,151
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		**25,303**	**146,155**	**171,458**	142,151
NET ASSETS		**25,303**	**146,155**	**171,458**	142,151
FUNDS	7				
Unrestricted funds				**25,303**	30,882
Restricted funds				**146,155**	111,269
TOTAL FUNDS				**171,458**	142,151

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 28th February 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:

S Bick - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements
The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income
All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities on a receipts basis.

Expenditure
Expenditure is accounted for on a payments basis under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Taxation
The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting
Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Church workers pension fund
The Mid-Wyedean Parish participates in the Pension Builder scheme of the Church Workers Pension Fund. The scheme is administered by the Church of England Pensions Board. Further information is available in a separate document.

2. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	31.12.22	31.12.21
	£	£
Fundraising events	**1,325**	-

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	31.12.22	31.12.21
	£	£
Dividends & Interest	**568**	81

continued...

4. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31st December 2022 nor for the year ended 31st December 2021.

Trustees' expenses

Trustees expenses of £102.15 were paid to D Hogan during the year (£221.70 - 2020)

5. STAFF COSTS

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	31.12.22	31.12.21
Admin	**-**	1

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

6. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	46,153	94,101	140,254
Charitable activities			
church activities	17,467	144	17,611
Investment income	40	41	81
Other income	8,155	2,602	10,757
Total	71,815	96,888	168,703
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
church activities	58,229	65,117	123,346
Other	1,791	61,687	63,478
Total	60,020	126,804	186,824
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	11,795	(29,916)	(18,121)
Transfers between funds	993	(993)	-
Net movement in funds	12,788	(30,909)	(18,121)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	18,094	142,178	160,272
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	30,882	111,269	142,151

continued...

7. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.1.22 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.12.22 £
Unrestricted funds				
Unrestricted fund	**19,284**	**(2,259)**	**(3,334)**	**13,691**
Designated Fund	**11,598**	**14**	**-**	**11,612**
	30,882	**(2,245)**	**(3,334)**	**25,303**
Restricted funds				
Restricted Fund	**111,269**	**31,552**	**3,334**	**146,155**
TOTAL FUNDS	**142,151**	**29,307**	**-**	**171,458**

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
Unrestricted fund	**62,642**	**(64,901)**	**(2,259)**
Designated Fund	**1,183**	**(1,169)**	**14**
	63,825	**(66,070)**	**(2,245)**
Restricted funds			
Restricted Fund	**71,055**	**(39,503)**	**31,552**
TOTAL FUNDS	**134,880**	**(105,573)**	**29,307**

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.1.21 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.12.21 £
Unrestricted funds				
Unrestricted fund	8,082	10,209	993	19,284
Designated Fund	10,012	1,586	-	11,598
	18,094	11,795	993	30,882
Restricted funds				
Restricted Fund	142,178	(29,916)	(993)	111,269
TOTAL FUNDS	160,272	(18,121)	-	142,151

continued...

7. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
Unrestricted fund	69,547	(59,338)	10,209
Designated Fund	2,268	(682)	1,586
	71,815	(60,020)	11,795
Restricted funds			
Restricted Fund	96,888	(126,804)	(29,916)
TOTAL FUNDS	168,703	(186,824)	(18,121)

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.1.21 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.12.22 £
Unrestricted funds				
Unrestricted fund	8,082	7,950	(2,341)	13,691
Designated Fund	10,012	1,600	-	11,612
	18,094	9,550	(2,341)	25,303
Restricted funds				
Restricted Fund	142,178	1,636	2,341	146,155
TOTAL FUNDS	160,272	11,186	-	171,458

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
Unrestricted fund	132,189	(124,239)	7,950
Designated Fund	3,451	(1,851)	1,600
	135,640	(126,090)	9,550
Restricted funds			
Restricted Fund	167,943	(166,307)	1,636
TOTAL FUNDS	303,583	(292,397)	11,186

continued...

7. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

The Parochial Church Council has been using the cashbook system provided by the Diocese of Gloucester which allows the Treasurer to track by bank account, income/expenditure code but also by Parish Fund Code (PFC). The use of the PFCs makes it possible to track a range of restricted and designated funds that may be held within one or more bank accounts. The PFC balances should equal the bank account balances. The accuracy does depend on the correct categorisation of ever transaction as Unrestricted, Designated or Restricted.

8. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

The following related party transactions ocurred during the year:

E Weaver Organist Fee's	£990 (£685 - 2021)
Reverend B Erskine Minister's Fee's	£260 (£169 - 2021)
D Hogan Minister's Fee's	£1,387 (£1,142 - 2021)
M Bick Running various projects	£469 (£950 - 2021)
S Simmons Verger's fee	Nil (£25 - 2021)
D Baulcomb Verger's Fee's	£375 (Nil - 2021)
W Williams Food Costs	£142
S Sparkes Food Costs	£35
R Ward Keys	£40

Mid Wyedean Churches

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
For The Year Ended 31st December 2022

	31.12.22 £	31.12.21 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Tax efficient planned giving	**21,346**	22,043
Donations	**21,537**	19,217
Gift aid	**4,252**	5,503
Grants	**54,526**	93,491
	101,661	140,254
Other trading activities		
Fundraising events	**1,325**	-
Investment income		
Dividends & Interest	**568**	81
Charitable activities		
Income from properties	**-**	24
Hall Lettings	**1,065**	216
Bookstall & magazine	**455**	500
Parochial fee income	**23,844**	16,871
	25,364	17,611
Other income		
Other income	**3,838**	8,574
Insurance claims	**2,124**	2,183
	5,962	10,757
Total incoming resources	**134,880**	168,703
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Wages	**12,815**	24,761
Fund raising costs	**453**	74
Donations & Grants	**481**	994
Church running expenses	**2,387**	5,405
Churchyard maintenance	**5,267**	4,402
Mission & Evangelism	**6,415**	31,540
Clergy expenses	**4,697**	3,831
Parochial Fees	**9,744**	6,571
Child/Youth work	**1,618**	1,311
Parish share	**18,000**	24,508
	61,877	103,397
Other		
Major church repairs	**7,686**	50,651
Carried forward	**7,686**	50,651

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
For The Year Ended 31st December 2022

	31.12.22 £	31.12.21 £
Other		
Brought forward	**7,686**	50,651
Routine maintenance	**14,240**	12,968
	21,926	63,619
Support costs		
Other		
Rates and water	**264**	209
Insurance	**10,117**	9,488
Light and heat	**3,237**	3,202
Music costs	**725**	720
Cleaning	**1,430**	1,478
Administration costs	**4,497**	3,211
	20,270	18,308
Governance costs		
Accountancy and legal fees	**1,500**	1,500
Total resources expended	**105,573**	186,824
Net income/(expenditure)	**29,307**	(18,121)

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1132171

Report of the Trustees and

Unaudited Financial Statements

For The Year Ended 31st December 2022

for

Mid Wyedean Churches

Wildin and Co
Accountants
& Statutory Auditors
Kings Buildings
Lydney
Gloucestershire
GL15 5HE

Mid Wyedean Churches

Contents of the Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 31st December 2022

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Independent Examiner's Report	3
Statement of Financial Activities	4
Statement of Financial Position	5
Notes to the Financial Statements	6 to 10
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities	11 to 12

Mid Wyedean Churches

Report of the Trustees
For The Year Ended 31st December 2022

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2022. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The promotion of the Christian faith and provision of Anglican worship within the area of the Mid-Wyedean Parish and providing appropriate support of and for parishioners.

Main activities

Providing religious services (including Baptisms, Funerals and Weddings and online services and activities), providing spiritual and administrative support to Parishioners and potential visitors and engaging in activities to support those in need (eg, Coleford Community Meals).

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

The charity generated a surplus of £29,307 this year. While the deficit in the previous year due to a significant amount of major church repairs.

Total income decreased in the year, as not so many grants were received. However income from church activities increased now that Covid restrictions have passed.

Available cash is being quickly used up by the Parish Administrator role that is no longer grant funded by the Diocese. The search for replacement funding is ongoing.

Reserves policy

The charity aims for a reserve balance in excess of 25% of the normal annual expenditure.

Where there are substantial reserves of restricted funds, it will be the policy to attempt to use them for the purposes for which they were restricted, with the mission and ministry of the Church being always the main consideration.

Going concern

The unrestricted funds of the churches stands at only £25,303 as at 31st December 2022 but the Trustees consider that a going concern basis is appropriate as funds required to cover future unrestricted costs are anticipated to be sufficient.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

Trustees are selected according to their knowledge and experience, which must be relevant to the specific needs ot the charity at the time of recruitment.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

1132171

Principal address

Office 2, The Main Place
Old Station Way
Railway Drive
Coleford
Gloucestershire
GL16 8RH

Mid Wyedean Churches

Report of the Trustees
For The Year Ended 31st December 2022

Trustees
D Baulcomb
M Bick
S Simmons
S Sparkes
D J Hogan
B Erskine
S Bick
J Simmons
B Weaver
Dr D J Kidger
R A Ward
L S Hayward
W Williams
E Ivens (appointed 24.4.22)

Independent Examiner
Carla Preece
FCCA
Wildin and Co
Accountants
& Statutory Auditors
Kings Buildings
Lydney
Gloucestershire
GL15 5HE

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 28th February 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

S Bick - Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Mid Wyedean Churches

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Mid Wyedean Churches
I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Mid Wyedean Churches (the Trust) for the year ended 31st 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 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by Section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Carla Preece
FCCA
Wildin and Co
Accountants
& Statutory Auditors
Kings Buildings
Lydney
Gloucestershire
GL15 5HE

28th February 2023

Mid Wyedean Churches

Statement of Financial Activities
For The Year Ended 31st December 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted fund £	**31.12.22 Total funds £**	31.12.21 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies		**34,071**	**67,590**	**101,661**	140,254
Charitable activities					
church activities		**25,364**	**-**	**25,364**	17,611
Other trading activities	2	**1,325**	**-**	**1,325**	-
Investment income	3	**31**	**537**	**568**	81
Other income		**3,034**	**2,928**	**5,962**	10,757
Total		**63,825**	**71,055**	**134,880**	168,703
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities					
church activities		**59,451**	**24,196**	**83,647**	123,346
Other		**6,619**	**15,307**	**21,926**	63,478
Total		**66,070**	**39,503**	**105,573**	186,824
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		**(2,245)**	**31,552**	**29,307**	(18,121)
Transfers between funds	7	**(3,334)**	**3,334**	**-**	-
Net movement in funds		**(5,579)**	**34,886**	**29,307**	(18,121)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		**30,882**	**111,269**	**142,151**	160,272
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		**25,303**	**146,155**	**171,458**	142,151

The notes form part of these financial statements

Mid Wyedean Churches

Statement of Financial Position
31st December 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted fund £	**31.12.22 Total funds £**	31.12.21 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS					
Cash at bank		**25,303**	**146,155**	**171,458**	142,151
NET CURRENT ASSETS		**25,303**	**146,155**	**171,458**	142,151
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		**25,303**	**146,155**	**171,458**	142,151
NET ASSETS		**25,303**	**146,155**	**171,458**	142,151
FUNDS	7				
Unrestricted funds				**25,303**	30,882
Restricted funds				**146,155**	111,269
TOTAL FUNDS				**171,458**	142,151

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 28th February 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:

S Bick - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements
The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income
All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities on a receipts basis.

Expenditure
Expenditure is accounted for on a payments basis under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Taxation
The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting
Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Church workers pension fund
The Mid-Wyedean Parish participates in the Pension Builder scheme of the Church Workers Pension Fund. The scheme is administered by the Church of England Pensions Board. Further information is available in a separate document.

2. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	31.12.22	31.12.21
	£	£
Fundraising events	**1,325**	-

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	31.12.22	31.12.21
	£	£
Dividends & Interest	**568**	81

continued...

4. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31st December 2022 nor for the year ended 31st December 2021.

Trustees' expenses

Trustees expenses of £102.15 were paid to D Hogan during the year (£221.70 - 2020)

5. STAFF COSTS

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	31.12.22	31.12.21
Admin	**-**	1

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

6. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	46,153	94,101	140,254
Charitable activities			
church activities	17,467	144	17,611
Investment income	40	41	81
Other income	8,155	2,602	10,757
Total	71,815	96,888	168,703
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
church activities	58,229	65,117	123,346
Other	1,791	61,687	63,478
Total	60,020	126,804	186,824
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	11,795	(29,916)	(18,121)
Transfers between funds	993	(993)	-
Net movement in funds	12,788	(30,909)	(18,121)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	18,094	142,178	160,272
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	30,882	111,269	142,151

continued...

7. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.1.22 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.12.22 £
Unrestricted funds				
Unrestricted fund	**19,284**	**(2,259)**	**(3,334)**	**13,691**
Designated Fund	**11,598**	**14**	**-**	**11,612**
	30,882	**(2,245)**	**(3,334)**	**25,303**
Restricted funds				
Restricted Fund	**111,269**	**31,552**	**3,334**	**146,155**
TOTAL FUNDS	**142,151**	**29,307**	**-**	**171,458**

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
Unrestricted fund	**62,642**	**(64,901)**	**(2,259)**
Designated Fund	**1,183**	**(1,169)**	**14**
	63,825	**(66,070)**	**(2,245)**
Restricted funds			
Restricted Fund	**71,055**	**(39,503)**	**31,552**
TOTAL FUNDS	**134,880**	**(105,573)**	**29,307**

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.1.21 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.12.21 £
Unrestricted funds				
Unrestricted fund	8,082	10,209	993	19,284
Designated Fund	10,012	1,586	-	11,598
	18,094	11,795	993	30,882
Restricted funds				
Restricted Fund	142,178	(29,916)	(993)	111,269
TOTAL FUNDS	160,272	(18,121)	-	142,151

continued...

7. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
Unrestricted fund	69,547	(59,338)	10,209
Designated Fund	2,268	(682)	1,586
	71,815	(60,020)	11,795
Restricted funds			
Restricted Fund	96,888	(126,804)	(29,916)
TOTAL FUNDS	168,703	(186,824)	(18,121)

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.1.21 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.12.22 £
Unrestricted funds				
Unrestricted fund	8,082	7,950	(2,341)	13,691
Designated Fund	10,012	1,600	-	11,612
	18,094	9,550	(2,341)	25,303
Restricted funds				
Restricted Fund	142,178	1,636	2,341	146,155
TOTAL FUNDS	160,272	11,186	-	171,458

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
Unrestricted fund	132,189	(124,239)	7,950
Designated Fund	3,451	(1,851)	1,600
	135,640	(126,090)	9,550
Restricted funds			
Restricted Fund	167,943	(166,307)	1,636
TOTAL FUNDS	303,583	(292,397)	11,186

continued...

7. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

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8. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

The following related party transactions ocurred during the year:

E Weaver Organist Fee's	£990 (£685 - 2021)
Reverend B Erskine Minister's Fee's	£260 (£169 - 2021)
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W Williams Food Costs	£142
S Sparkes Food Costs	£35
R Ward Keys	£40

Mid Wyedean Churches

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
For The Year Ended 31st December 2022

	31.12.22 £	31.12.21 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Tax efficient planned giving	**21,346**	22,043
Donations	**21,537**	19,217
Gift aid	**4,252**	5,503
Grants	**54,526**	93,491
	101,661	140,254
Other trading activities		
Fundraising events	**1,325**	-
Investment income		
Dividends & Interest	**568**	81
Charitable activities		
Income from properties	**-**	24
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Other income		
Other income	**3,838**	8,574
Insurance claims	**2,124**	2,183
	5,962	10,757
Total incoming resources	**134,880**	168,703
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Wages	**12,815**	24,761
Fund raising costs	**453**	74
Donations & Grants	**481**	994
Church running expenses	**2,387**	5,405
Churchyard maintenance	**5,267**	4,402
Mission & Evangelism	**6,415**	31,540
Clergy expenses	**4,697**	3,831
Parochial Fees	**9,744**	6,571
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	61,877	103,397
Other		
Major church repairs	**7,686**	50,651
Carried forward	**7,686**	50,651

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
For The Year Ended 31st December 2022

	31.12.22 £	31.12.21 £
Other		
Brought forward	**7,686**	50,651
Routine maintenance	**14,240**	12,968
	21,926	63,619
Support costs		
Other		
Rates and water	**264**	209
Insurance	**10,117**	9,488
Light and heat	**3,237**	3,202
Music costs	**725**	720
Cleaning	**1,430**	1,478
Administration costs	**4,497**	3,211
	20,270	18,308
Governance costs		
Accountancy and legal fees	**1,500**	1,500
Total resources expended	**105,573**	186,824
Net income/(expenditure)	**29,307**	(18,121)

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF MID-WYEDEAN CHURCHE

England & Wales - Charity number 1132171

Accounts











ANNUAL REPORT 2021

The Mid-Wyedean Churches

serving Coleford, Broadwell, Clearwell, Newland, Redbrook, Staunton and surrounding areas.

DIOCESE OF GLOUCESTER

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1132171

MISSION STATEMENT

Welcome -

Friend and stranger, young and old, all are welcome here. As followers of Jesus, our journey of faith is one of love, compassion and justice for all.

1) AIM AND PURPOSES

The primary objective of Mid-Wyedean Churches Parochial Church Council (PCC) is the promotion of the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England. The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, the Reverend Sarah Bick, in promoting in the whole mission of the Church within and beyond the ecclesiastical parish, and working with ecumenical partners. The Anglican Communion has agreed these marks of mission:

- To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
- To teach, baptise and nurture new believers
- To respond to human need by loving service
- To seek to transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and to pursue peace and reconciliation
- To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth.

The Church of England is a broad church, containing within it differing views and approaches to the promotion of the gospel. Mid-Wyedean Churches PCC has adopted a position of explicit inclusion, valuing the presence and God-given gifts of people of all ages, abilities, ethnicities, genders, sexual orientation and social backgrounds. We believe this is important to our Christian mission in the 21st Century, and entirely consistent with the gospel of Jesus Christ. To support our convictions regarding inclusion, we also highly value the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults. We seek to serve all the residents of our parish, whether in town, village or rural location.

Responsible stewardship of all the gifts God has given us is important in fulfilling our mission. This includes care for creation: environmental concerns, including our carbon footprint, impact all our decision-making.

The PCC is also specifically responsible for the care of the five church buildings within the united parish, and the cemetery chapel at Clearwell, and seeks the best use of those buildings to fulfil the mission of the church and for the benefit of the communities in which they are found.

2) OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Written by Rev'd Sarah Bick (Incumbent)

Our parish encompasses a number of distinct geographical communities, some with church buildings, but all of which we seek to serve. In seeking to fulfil our purposes as a multi-church parish, we aim to hold governance and broad strategy at parish level, but deliver mission and ministry at community level. Rather than seeking to consolidate in the 'centre' (known as the Minster model), we value the presence and potential growth of worshipping communities and effective ministry in every place, facilitated by a local minister (lay or ordained) acting as a team leader in each of our congregations. The EMEP (Effective Ministry in Every Place) team forms the leadership team of the United Parish, under the oversight of the incumbent.

The Covid 19 Pandemic continued to be disruptive of parish life throughout 2021.
The EMEP team met on a monthly basis, in person or on Zoom as most appropriate.
(For governance structures see paragraph 10.)
It continued to be the specific objective for 2021 for each EMEP minister to keep in touch with the people from 'their' place to ensure that they knew what was going on with their Church and to make sure that everyone had the support that they needed. In addition, the PCC addressed the matter of a worship pattern to balance needs and resources across the parish, using the break in worship pattern due to Covid as an opportunity to establish something new.

Parish Review process

Early in 2021 two significant moments led to the instigation of a parish review. The first was the vicar asking to see the Archdeacon of Gloucester to talk through the fragile state of parish finances, the reasons for it, and some ways to address it. The second was that the LIFE development fund withdrew the final year of funding for our parish administrator. Archdeacon Hilary and Bishop Robert,, the Bishop of Tewkesbury, suggested that a colleague from another parish could be seconded to us for a day a week to help conduct a parish review. We are grateful to Rev Katrina Scott for her time and her thoughtfulness in conducting this review. In conjunction with this process, and with the help of the Archdeacon, some substitute funding was found for the parish administrator post to carry us through until March 2022. However that is with a funding gap of four months at the beginning of 2021, creating a significant dent in our diminishing reserves. A draft review report was produced in December. A meeting to discuss the report is expected in early

2022. As part of this process, Rev Scott surveyed the leadership, governance and structures of the parish, met with ecumenical colleagues, and reviewed the vision and direction of the parish. We look forward to engaging with the Bishop and Archdeacon over the contents of the commissioned report.

Activities across the whole parish during 2021 continued to be limited due to the Covid regulations in place.

- Regular worship in person was suspended by local decision in January because of a significant spike in Covid cases. Worship returned to the Church of the Good Shepherd after a few weeks, and each individual church had an Easter service. Following on from Easter, and after discussion with the PCC and consultation with local congregations, a new worship pattern was put in place, such that a single benefice service takes place on the first and third Sundays of the month, but each individual church has their own service on the second and fourth Sundays of the month. We hope this represents a balance between available human resources and our continuing commitment to the individual communities in our parish. One unfortunate exception is that St Peter's Clearwell still has no heating, so worship there continued until Remembrance Sunday and then stopped for the winter except for a Christmas Carol service on the 19th December. We anticipate worship resuming at St Peter's in some form from Easter onwards in 2022.
- Special events worship – A Harvest service was held, also a short All Souls service each church with the All Souls service from the Good Shepherd being streamed via facebook. A socially distanced short Ecumenical Service of Remembrance was held outside in the centre of Coleford with the Baptist Church. This was attended by members of the public and the British Legion and representatives from our emergency services. Social distancing and other Covid security was managed by civic authorities.
- Occasional Offices (Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals) baptisms continue to be postponed through 2021 largely by family choice – we received very few enquiries for baptism services during this time. Weddings were able to go ahead with larger numbers by July and so the hope for rescheduling by a number of couples meant that we were quite busy with weddings during the summer. The restriction on funeral numbers also was lifted during the year, and so we have seen a return of funerals to churches, though some people have continued to book graveside services. There is some evidence that the simplicity of just attending the crematorium is attractive either to families or funeral directors. We hope that the return of funerals to church may increase further during 2022. Covid measures such as hand sanitiser stations and the requirement to wear masks continued and were upheld in each of our buildings.

- Discipleship groups – Redbrook house group continued on Zoom during this time, As did the well-being group. As restrictions have lifted and we are able to go out into the world again, attendance at the well-being group has diminished. The final decision on continuing with this will be taken in January 2022. The ecumenical Bible study and communion service with soup lunch restarted in September 2021. There is a new minister and trainee minister at the Baptist Church. With this new personnel the meeting has taken a slightly different shape. We meet in the Baptist Church at 11 for Bible study, communion at 12 and lunch at 12:30. This joint group is seen as one outworking of the vision of much greater togetherness in the future, and the possibility of a shared building between Anglicans, Baptists and Roman Catholics.
- Mustard Tree school based congregation – We persisted with zoom meetings for a short while in the early part of the year. As soon as it became possible to gather outdoors, we made the move to do so, with a number of activities being based at the Angus Buchanan recreation ground. Debbie Orriss, the Church Army Missioner placed in the parish, has continued to lead on gathering this group together, for most of the year. We then approach St John's Academy to see if we might be able to return to our Saturday slot. This has been agreed and a couple of sessions happened in school just before Christmas, with a plan to continue this in 2022.
- Shalom Groups ministry with adults with and without Learning Disabilities – these meetings continued via zoom for those who were able to take part. Meetings in person started up again using the Church of the Good Shepherd in the autumn. Shalom also started exploring the possibilities of setting up independently as a charity or community interest company. They have worked hard on gathering a group of trustees, getting their own bank account, and sorting out insurance and safeguarding procedures and so on. In other words, all that is needed to be a well run charity. They have managed to set themselves up independently by the end of 2021, and so will no longer form part of the parish in 2022. However the group will continue to meet in the church of the good Shepherd, and we will have a continuing relationship with them supporting their ministry with our prayer.
- Community events and facilities. Coleford community meals project continued during 2021. Debbie Orriss was able to secure further funding to pick the service back up again after a short break in April. The funding we have in place should secure the service until the end of March 2022. We are grateful to the local funders for supporting this, the Rotary club, the Lions. There was also a second grant from the lottery community fund of another £10,000.

The Salvation Army Corps have started receiving food donations from a local Morrisons supermarket and offering food parcels to local people. We integrate our response to people in need as far as we can. Baby bank collections resumed during this year.

- Worship, curriculum support and governance at our schools – continued via zoom and pre-recorded services. Though schools are allowed external visitors from September, our church schools have continued to be cautious about this.
- Social and fellowship groups, e.g. CAMEO and Craft Club have not yet resumed. Wendy Williams has instigated a group called Purple Ladies, who have taken day trips, going out for lunch, art exhibitions and walks in the woods.

Volunteers and gifts in kind:

Except for the Incumbent and the Parish Co-ordinator, all ministry and community service is offered by volunteers, including all the local ministers. The time and talents they and others offer are invaluable, and the ministry of the church would be significantly diminished without them.

St John's Church of England Academy kindly supports Mustard Tree to meet at the school without charging for use of the premises.

3) HIGHLIGHTS AND CHALLENGES

Written by Rev'd Sarah Bick (Incumbent)

The undertaking of a parish review, referenced above, was the most significant highlight of this year, in terms of visioning and planning for the future.

The work of the Centre of Mission and the Pioneer Evangelist Debbie Orriss continued until October. Sadly, Debbie felt she could no longer continue in this role and stepped down. After discussion between diocese, Church Army and parish, it was felt that any new appointee should be placed closer to the other mission partner in Gloucester.

Covid and its attendant challenges continued to be part of life during 2021. There were some highlights too, including the priesting of our curate, Rev Bea Erskine.

MISSION, MINISTRY AND BUILDING MATTERS WITHIN LOCAL COMMUNITIES

THE VILLAGES

All Saints', Newland

Written by Rosemary Ward (Parish Warden) and Bea Erskine (Curate)



Building -

Gigaclear installed a broadband connection this year in preparation for the new AV system. The Falculty for the AV system has been submitted and funds, through grants and the Friends are in place. This was approved by the Chancellor and is scheduled for fitting February 2022.

All the work from the Covid recovery fund which covered the repointing of the external East wall of the St Nicholas Chapel, the clearing of the gulley's and the repair of the clerestory window and the Brickdale memorial window and Celestry windows has been completed.

The reredos restoration was completed in September.

The low walls along the entrance to the church yard from Almshouse Road have been repaired. The re-surfacing of all the paths in the church yard was to be done this autumn but this was delayed.

A mock-up of the proposed new vestry has been done.

The new children's area is being used regularly by visitors.

Tree surgeon Oli Field has given a quotation for work on the trees throughout the church yard, which the Friends have requested. Scheduled to be carried out in September 2022.

Friends continue to cover the cost of mowing the church yard.

We had two successful church yard clear up mornings in the spring and the autumn.

Church -

The Archdeacon Visitation Service for our Deanery to swear in the new Churchwardens was held at All Saints.

The production of The Secret Garden was well supported with 81 tickets sold.

Beer and Carols was well supported by people inside and outside the village.

The Snow Queen tickets sold well.

Thank you, as always, to the Friends for their continued support both financially and all the work they do for All Saints' Newland.



All Saints', Staunton

Written by Rosemary Ward (Parish Warden) and Denise Hogan (Reader)

Building -

The Stained-Glass window which was damaged in 2021 was eventually replaced by Brockweir Glass.

Re-ordering of the building: Two LCCs have been held to discuss this after a meeting with the DAC recommended that a survey take place to investigate the damp issue, this took place in May. The report was received from the damp survey with recommendations to improve drainage and removal of render. Also, we have received a grant from Churchcare of £1400 towards the cost of the Environmental Assessment into the damp problems. It is hoped that in the meantime some ventilation in the windows will suffice for this. Also, the roof and ground level gutters have been cleared. The roof was surveyed by David Elias and work has been carried out to reset the stone tiles.

The clock has been fixed and is now working.

Church -

Our aim and purpose is to try and build up the congregation, now having 2 regular services a month does seem to be helping make this happen.

On special Sundays Denise advertises the service which is getting her out and about in the village meeting people.

The piano stool has been cleaned and reupholstered, 3 bookcases have been acquired and now offer a book exchange. Also, a children's area has been made in the Lady Chapel plus a space has been made for refreshments and services. Though there is still more clearing to be done this is working very well especially with space for people (mainly walkers) to sit, pray, make themselves a drink and look around the building.

Denise attended the Staunton Parish Council in August to ask for support in looking after the church. One of the councillors suggested putting a list of jobs that needs to be done of the noticeboard, he was sure people from the village would help.

We had poor turnout for All Souls Service.

We had good turn out for Remembrance Sunday.

More and more people are coming into the church, both on Sundays and during the week. It has been a challenge and hard work but has paid off.

Plan for the future is hopefully to grow even more, get more children into Church, maybe the odd coffee morning.

I know word is getting around the village that things are happening in Staunton Church.



St Saviour's Church, Redbrook

Written by Rosemary Ward (Parish Warden) and Mark Bick (Reader)

Building -

The toilet and ramp were completed in early autumn, which opens up a lot more potential for the use of the building.

Volunteers demolished the derelict and dangerous former coal store.

The tower steps & door were repaired with Covid Recovery Grant funding.

The first Masonry Training took place from Friday 10th - Sunday 12th September. led on a voluntary basis by Toby, our architect. They made substantial repairs to the outside vestry walls and windows. There was very positive feedback from participants and an intention to run it again in 2022 (depending on funding).

Repairs to the high-level nave gable masonry were completed in late autumn, leaving the inside to dry out before re-plastering.

External lighting was repaired.

All this work has been made possible through a combination of local donations and grants. See full list on grant providers elsewhere in this report.

Services -

Due to lockdown there were very limited services from Jan to September.

Harvest and Remembrance both involved the school and were well attended.

Most of the congregation are either vulnerable to Covid themselves, living with or caring for someone who is vulnerable, so return to worship in person has been limited.

House Group -

This continued fortnightly on Zoom.

School -

Mari Hutchings (who led Art Angels) has linked with retired teacher Bernadette Kilty to run weekly school Open the Book assemblies in the church building.

Mark had been doing school assemblies fortnightly but that stopped at lockdown and has not yet re-started.

We held a harvest service with the school, linked to "Reduce, Reuse and Repair" event on the Millennium Green, organised by the Civic Parish Council.

Use of the Building -

A full vision and business plan document has now been agreed by the PCC which should enable the building to fully cover its fixed and variable costs including admin and insurance, through increased use by both the school and community.

With the toilet in place, use is already growing, despite the restrictions of on-going building work and very frustrating delays in getting a faculty for a full kitchen.

The ChurchSuite online booking system has made it easier for our administrator, the school and other users to manage bookings.

A flexible approach to fees has been taken to support growth, while ensuring that everything covers full additional costs.

It is exciting to see use that supports church engagement with the local community. Uses have included:

- The 'Mapping Redbrook' Exhibition, attended by over 250 people
- School use for PE and Open the Book
- A new community choir - Kingfisher's Chorus
- Half term art workshops organised by Wye Valley River Festival
- Fortnightly Youth Group
- A 'Green Friday' clothes and toy swap
- A family friendly music night
- An all age lino printmaking workshop
- A Baptism party



St Peter's Church, Clearwell

Written by Rosemary Ward (Parish Warden)

Building -

In January it was discovered that a lot of masonry had fallen around the West End of the building - most of which had fallen off from the sandstone tiles on the spire. Ian Bishop came and did a preliminary ground level inspection of the spire and other falling masonry and slipping tiles. He liaised with the Cherry picker people to arrange a date to come and remove any loose masonry and do some running repairs. There may be further work to be done but this can't be seen from the ground. He will send a report once he has been up there. The falling masonry was eventually repaired. Though there is some damp in the vestry and the surface paint and plaster is peeling.

The radiators have been drained down and the Oil and tank removed

The organ was not working very well. Ross Daley the organ tuner who has put it down to the fact that the Church is now damp and cold. He has suggested a heater be left on near the organ. Ideally it would be good to air the building, but we will have to wait until the roof and falling masonry have been sorted.

Will Ruck has pulled the bell ropes up into the first-floor level of the clock chamber for safety since we are no longer using the bells. He also reported that he has stopped the clock as the faces were showing different times.

It was hoped to get another grass cutting quote, but this not happened.

During the year we did have an accidental flood when the water was put back on but that was quickly resolved.

A rota has been set up in the village for opening and closing the Church. Betty is regularly checking the Church and the Cemetery once a week.

Despite the lack of heat a decision was made to continue if the weather allows.

Services -

All Souls Service of light – 31st October 3pm

Remembrance Sunday – 14th November. Clearwell Scouts attended.

Also, it was planned to have a short carol service before Christmas.

School -

School contact resumed in September, with Robert and Chris leading Open the Book sessions each Tuesday. Chris led a Christmas service for the school community in December. The school continued to use St Peter's grounds as additional outdoor space. We are also grateful to the school for making a contribution to grass cutting costs at St Peter's.



Cemetery Chapel -

As far as the cemetery chapel is concerned, we are still waiting to hear from London re transfer to the Diocese. A hole had appeared in the cemetery which is connected to the Culvert - a fence has been put around the hole. Also, the front wall next to the cemetery house has developed a hole so this part of the wall is cordoned off. The Wall on the other side of gates is also in need of repair.

COLEFORD TOWN

Covid Response

Written by Rev'd Sarah Bick (Incumbent)

The Coleford Community Meals project continued, as referenced above. As we approached the end of 2021, the government seems to want to take the approach of learning to live with Covid. Therefore, we are not sure what funding might be available come the New Year. Future planning is therefore not easy, but we are clear we don't want to lose the contacts we have made if at all possible. It would also seem to be a need within the community for people to get back to being able to meet in person, for the sake of mental well-being. We are considering the idea of a lunch club in the Broadwell area as a way of meeting these combined needs.

Good Shepherd, Broadwell with St John, Coleford

Written by Rosemary Ward (Parish Warden) & Rev'd Sarah Bick (Incumbent)



Building -

On the 15/16th April the Church was burgled in broad daylight. They broke into the vestry through the side door. Once in the vestry they broke into the locked cupboard (using the brass cross as a crowbar) and stole the laptop. They also took the large TV screen (from All Saints Newland) and the speakers, Amplifier and mixer which

had been donated by the Ward family and the new wall safe which hadn't yet been installed which replaced the one the thieves damaged during the first break in last September. They used the wheelchair to remove the items, but this was dumped and has been recovered. The SOCO attended and made some recommendations as did the PC who attended later. It was considered a repeat crime as we had a burglary in 2020.
It was decided to look into making the cupboard behind the organ more secure.
The outside of the building needs re-rendering and painting. We have had a quote for £20468.00 to do this work but we need to do some further fundraising first. We have already raised about £4000 towards the work.
Services -
Resumed in the building on Easter Sunday and they are live-streamed on our Facebook page.



St John's Academy

Written by Rev'd Sarah Bick (Incumbent)

- Sarah leads school worship fortnightly via a recorded session to watch in class bubbles, continues to serve on the governing body, and assists with curriculum RE and staff training.

Staff morale has at times been quite low because of the attritional effect of working through the Covid pandemic. Before the October half term, we used some monies from the Vicar's discretionary fund, to give each member of staff a little goodie bag to take home for the half term holiday.

- The school has been wonderfully helpful at advertising Mustard three sessions whether online or in person.



The Mustard Tree: Family, Fun, Faith & Food

Written by Wendy Williams and team.

Access to the school building has still been impossible due to the level of Covid in the community.

We had a very successful meeting in the school grounds with picnics, making Easter nests and lots of fun games (including; put the bird in a nest, treasure hunt and hug a tree games)..

We also introduced our new Mustard Tree where we ask people to decorate a leaf and add it to our new tree as a sign of membership of Mustard Tree.

The supporters team built an Easter Garden in the school grounds which was apparently very popular with the children. This was later moved to The Church of The Good Shepherd for Easter as the school was closed for the holiday.

Still unable to use the school building, we met after school in the Angus Buchanan park for games and a picnic tea. This was such fun that we met throughout the summer for picnics and games and this served to keep contact with the group and we had a lot of Family, Fun, Faith and FOOD.

After the summer holidays we were able to get back into the school and we had a joyous meeting and some new members. We introduced the plan for the next 3 sessions. We were looking at preservation of this wonderful world that God gave us and in particular re-using things and not wasting.

As a group we made a large picture (based on Psalm 8) using rubbish to make the trees, birds, bushes, fish etc. (this can now be seen in The Good Shepherd). During this time we had several new members and some parents and grandparents who helped. We learnt songs and during those pre Christmas meetings we practised to sing in the Baptsit Church at their Christmas Concert (the performance was subsequently cancelled due to the high number of covid cases in the area).

Despite the covid restrictions, this year, Mustard Tree has had a good time of regrowth but during the lockdowns several of our children became teenagers and it became evident that there is a clear need for teen provision to follow.

PARISH-WIDE, AND BEYOND

PARISH OFFICE & PARISH COORDINATOR

Written by Sarah Bick (Incumbent)

As referenced above, the funding that we had thought was secure for this post until November 2021 was unfortunately withdrawn, with alternative funding needing to be found. With the parish review underway, the future of this role and the way in which it can be funded will form a significant element of the review.

Alison Stuttard held this post until early September 2021 having handed in her notice in June. Sadly, the unsettled nature of the future of the post led her to the decision to take early retirement. The parish is extremely grateful to her for her dedicated work over a number of years. The new post holder is Charlotte Butcher who has worked in church admin and as a children's and families worker. She brings to the post different gifts and strengths, and we look forward to seeing how this role might develop in her hands. The funding we have available for this currently takes us to the end of March 2022. We very much hope that a solution will be found to making this crucial role secure for a more extended period. The work performed in this role is crucial to the smooth and effective running of the parish and releases clergy and lay leaders for ministry rather than administration.

UNITED PARISH WORSHIP

Written by Sarah Bick (Incumbent)

After a short break in January, a single united parish service continued at the church of the good Shepherd for a number of months. After Easter, a new worship pattern came into being which returned worship to each of our other churches alternating week on week with a continued single United parish service.

UNITED PARISH DISCIPLESHIP

Written by Sarah Bick (Incumbent)

Rev Bea Erskine ran a bookclub for Lent.

And the well-being group “Health and Salvation” continued throughout the year.

WEDDINGS, BAPTISMS AND FUNERALS

Written by Charlotte Butcher (Parish Administrator)

Due to the slight lift in Covid guidance throughout the year we were able to conduct 10 weddings (compared to 7 in 2020) but the same number of Baptisms, 5, as in 2020.

There were 38 Funerals, graveside committals and cremations compared to 43 in 2020.

HOME/COMMUNITY COMMUNIONS AND VISITING

Written by Sarah Bick (Incumbent)

We still don't know when we will be allowed back in to take services in the Coombs. Similarly, offering communion at home to those by definition who are vulnerable, has except in a few cases not been possible. As mentioned elsewhere, EMEP leaders were delegated to check up on the members of their worshipping community, which happened in different ways.

Some interest has been shown in developing a pastoral team. We hope to make this a reality for 2022.

CHURCH ARMY CENTRE OF MISSION, FOREST

Written by Sarah Bick (Incumbent)

Debbie Orriss Worked on a number of different things until her departure in October. The most significant of these in terms of partnering with the parish being her input to Mustard tree, and the Coleford community meals project (see above).

FOODBANK, SALVATION ARMY FOOD SERVICE AND BABY BANK

Written by Rev'd Sarah Bick (Incumbent)

Please see further comment above. The services are back up and running and we support them where we can. The baby bank collection point at the vicarage has been very well used!

ECUMENICAL LINKS

Written by Sarah Bick (Incumbent)

We value our connections with Christians of other denominations, both for Christian fellowship and for partnering in engagement with the wider community in mission and evangelism. With a new appointment of a minister and trainee minister at Coleford Baptist Church, the time is starting to feel right to further pursue our vision of an ecumenical shared building in Coleford. Informal discussions have taken place between ourselves, Coleford Baptist Church and the Roman Catholic Church in the Forest of Dean (the Catholics are considering options across the Forest for a new building).

SHALOM



Written by Miriam Goldby

The Shalom groups have continued to meet weekly online via Zoom. Once the Covid restrictions started to lift, we have been able to meet again in person. Currently this is happening once a month for a Get-Together and a shared picnic tea. We meet at the Good Shepherd Church, in Broadwell from 5.30pm to 7:30pm. People have really enjoyed reconnecting together in person.
On the other weeks of the month we continue to meet online via Zoom. We have grown in number in the online meetings and people are beginning to join the calls who live beyond the Forest area. This has been really encouraging.

This last year has also seen us successfully be awarded charity status as 'The Shalom Network'. The new Charity has incorporated the Shalom Groups plus another local ministry called Musiclusive. This now means we are able to offer more opportunities to people of all abilities to be able to participate in the activities, projects and life of the charity alongside developing and gaining more life skills. This will enable people to be more active within their local communities, churches and society as a whole.
We have also been successful in being awarded funding from a number of funding providers. One in particular is from Gloucestershire County Council. We have been awarded funding for a year to work with people who have no speech. We are teaching and enabling them to learn how to use digital technology which then enables them to have their voices heard.

As of the 1st of January 2022 we have moved to being an independent Charity. We would like to take this opportunity to thank again the Churches of the Mid-Wyedean parish for all your support, prayers and interest in this ministry.



REDBROOK YOUTH CLUB

Written by Mark Bick (Reader) and Charlotte Butcher (Youth Worker)

When discussing use of the building at a zoom Local Church Council meeting in January 2021, Emily Fordham suggested a Youth Group. Lucy Hayward had wanted to start one a year or so previously. This time we worked together over zoom to plan it, drawing in other volunteer leaders from non-church background and deciding to have one paid person to coordinate and do the paper work. Aimee Blease-Bourne was the first person in this role, then Charlotte took over as Aimee was busy with other things. We started fortnightly from 4-5pm on Fridays in the Village Hall in June 2021 with a pizza making evening. Young people pay £2 per session. The group created a brilliant video about saving the River Wye. We initially used parish children's and youth funds, then secured a grant from Newland Civic Parish Council. We went to Go Ape during the summer holidays and continued in the church once the toilet was completed (autumn 2021).

Since September we have been meeting fortnightly on a Friday evening from 5-7pm. There are usually between 6 and 10 young people in attendance, we have had up to 13 during a School holiday 'special' in October. The young people play games, run around, chill out - it's just a space for them to be themselves but we do offer something slightly more structured if they would like to participate; these have included a board games night, a walk and marshmallow toasting evening and a Christmas craft evening. Making food together continues to be a significant part of the Youth Club and some temporary facilities have therefore been put into church.

The leaders are Charlotte, Lucy Hayward, Aimee Blease-Bourne and Mark Bick (Emily Fordham was involved until she left for university in September).

You can watch the young people's report for Newland Civic Parish Council meeting here or by scanning the QR code below.

4) FINANCIAL REVIEW 2022

Treasurer's Report to APCM

Written by Rev'd Alan Wearmouth (Treasurer)

The accounts for 2021 have been circulated and are available to anyone who wishes to read them. I would suggest to anyone who wishes to investigate the financial affairs of the Parish that they also study the PFC reports as they become available throughout the year. A PFC report for December 31st 2021 is readily available - please email the Treasurer if you wish to have a copy. The Independent Examiner has found nothing untoward concerning the accounts for this period so I shall move to a few comments which may be of interest to parishioners.

Grant aid is an essential element of funding for many Churches and Parishes including Mid-Wyedean. The activity and achievements at St Saviour's, Redbrook, during this period were entirely (or almost entirely) funded and therefore enabled by grant aid from various sources. The post of Parish Co-ordinator (of great usefulness and value to the Parish in my opinion) was funded in large part through grant aid but parishioners should be aware that this is likely to continue for only 25% of the next reporting year (2022) and funding thereafter remains very insecure.

The pattern of recent years continued with Mid-Wyedean paying its full promised Parish Share but that promise was less than 50% of the requested amount before a Deanery subsidy was applied. This is despite the fact that our Parish Giving per head is above the Diocesan average, for which we are extremely grateful. It is of great benefit to us that so many parishioners are members of the Parish Giving Scheme which meant that during Covid our direct giving fell much less than it did in many other Parishes.

Although our reserves look relatively healthy I must point out that they are likely to diminish at a quick rate, depending upon the Parish Share to which we commit. The immense burden of our buildings (insurance costs alone accounted for almost 50% of our regular giving through the Parish Giving Scheme) means that unless there is a significant upturn in giving I can see no way of guaranteeing that the Parish will be able to function financially within the next decade.

A highlight of 2021 was the raising and spending of significant funds in supporting families during Covid by providing nutritious, subsidised meals, often delivered to home.

Please feel free to contact me by email if you have any query or comment.

5) SAFEGUARDING

Written by Mark Bick (Reader & Safeguarding Officer)

The safeguarding officer is Mark Bick who can be contacted on 01594 836418, 07815 459468 or mark@markbick.co.uk. The deputy officer is the vicar, Rev Sarah Bick who can be contacted on 01594 835476 or at vicar@mid-wyedeanchurches.co.uk.

The PCC has adopted the national C of E safeguarding policy statement. Guidance, adapted to the needs of our parish, was adopted on Feb 26th 2020 and reviewed in Nov 2020. A further review is underway, using the new Parish Safeguarding Dashboard. We are now being asked to do a lot of extra things. Some are useful, others less so, but it is all very time consuming. I am deeply concerned that the C of E is going down the road of ever changing and more onerous safeguarding procedural and training requirements, which take up a lot of time with little benefit (other than making it look as if the National church is "doing something"). I would encourage everyone to focus on building positive and supportive relationships with people, being alert and sensitive to concerns and issues which may arise, and ensuring that they are reported, even if you are not sure if they are significant.

Six safeguarding concerns were reported to Mark or Sarah in 2021, three were reported to the Diocesan Safeguarding team. The other three were low level and were resolved e.g. a vulnerable adult's heating breaking down, a health concern about a community meals recipient.

All PCC members, activity leaders and helpers are now asked to do C of E free national online safeguarding training. It is very well presented and thoughtful. The Parish Administrator will be in touch with reminders, but it is helpful if people can just get on with it. Ask if you need support and let the office know when you have completed.

Follow this link https://safeguardingtraining.cofeportal.org/index.php? you will then need to sign up and receive an email to access the training. You get a certificate at the end.

6) STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Parish of the Mid-Wyedean Churches is a church of England parish service the town of Coleford in the Forest of Dean and many of the surrounding villages.
Under the Pastoral Scheme that created our United Parish, the name of the parish is "The Parish of The Mid-Wyedean Churches of All Saints Newland and Staunton; Good Shepherd, Broadwell; Saint John, Coleford; Saint Peter, Clearwell and Saint Saviour, Redbrook". It is part of the Diocese of Gloucester within the Church of England. The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. However, in March 2019 the Bishops Council authorised an amendment to the interim constitution which stood for the first 5 years of being a United Parish. This enabled each congregation to be better represented on the PCC.
All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.
Relevant officers attend Diocesan training events for Churchwardens and Treasurers.

The PCC has a Standing Committee and a Finance Committee. Membership of the Standing Committee comprises the incumbent, Parish Churchwardens, PCC Secretary, and Treasurer. The Finance Committee includes these same members and 2 additional reps nominated by local congregations and ratified by PCC.

Each congregation has an EMEP local minister (lay or ordained), a local warden and an informal LCC (Local Congregation Council) which can feed in information and raise issues to PCC, and receive suggestions and requests from PCC for consideration or action, reflecting our commitment to local expression of Christian community.

7) ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Mid-Wyedean Churches

Including worshipping communities based in our buildings at:

- Church of the Good Shepherd, Church Walk, North Road, Broadwell, GL16 7BN
- St Peter, Church Street, Clearwell, Coleford, GL16 8LF
- All Saints, Almshouse Road, Newland, Coleford, GL16 8NL
- St Saviour, Redbrook Road, Redbrook, NP25 4LY
- All Saints, Staunton Road, Staunton, Coleford, GL16 8NU

And further worshipping communities:

- Coleford St John's Congregation, meeting at Church of the Good Shepherd, Church Walk, North Road, Broadwell, GL16 7BN
- Mustard Tree, meeting at St John's Church of England Academy, Bowen's Hill Road, Coleford, GL16 8DU

Also:

- Shalom Groups (until the end of this year) have their administrative and oversight home with us, meeting in various locations around the Forest of Dean.

And one further building (currently not in use, and seeking official closure):

- Cemetery Chapel, High Street, Clearwell, Coleford, GL16 8JS

Registered Charity No: 1132171

The Licensed Staff Team *(All are volunteers, unless otherwise indicated)*

Vicar *(Stipendiary)*	Rev'd Sarah Bick	01594 835476
Readers:	Mark Bick - Pioneer Reader Mr Chris Howell - Reader Mrs Denise Hogan - Reader	
EMEP Team:	Rev'd Sarah Bick - Coleford & Broadwell Mark Bick - Redbrook Denise Hogan - Staunton Chris Young - Clearwell Rev'd Bea Erskine - Newland Wendy Williams - Mustard Tree Miriam Goldby - Shalom	

We also have six licensed Worship Leaders:

Fred Meek	Wendy Williams	Margaret Winter
Chris Young	Alison Studdard	Bea Erskine

Curate: Rev'd Bea Erskine

WE are grateful for the support of retired Clergy Rev'd Alan Wearmouth & Rev'd Robert Simpson

Church Officers

Parish Wardens: Rosemary Ward also at The Good Shepherd, Broadwell
Vacancy (ex-officio)

Assistant Wardens: Sue Simmons - All Saints', Staunton
Lucy Hayward - St Saviour's, Redbrook

PCC Secretary: Vacancy (ex-officio)

Parish Treasurer: Alan Wearmouth (Non PCC)

Church Reps: Daphne Baulcomb - St Peter's, Clearwell (Elected member 2019)
Betty Weaver - St Peter's, Clearwell (Elected member 2019)
John Simmons - All Saints', Staunton (Elected member 2019)
Daniel Kidger - St John's, Coleford (Elected member 2019)
2 Elected member Vacancies

Deanery Synod Reps:	Susan Sparkes	2021	(Next elections 2023)
	Wendy Williams	2021	(Next elections 2023)

Electoral Roll officer: Susan Sparkes (ex-officio)

Parish Administrator: Alison Studdard - Until September 2021
Charlotte Butcher - From September 2021
Both paid staff, funded by grants

Independent Examiner: Lucy Clutterbuck of Wildin & Co (paid)

8) INFORMATION OF GRANTS RECIEVED

Redbrook Church Capital Grants 2019-2021

Allchurches Trust £2k
Barnwood Trust £8K
Bernard Sunley CVharitable Foundation £5k
Coleford Area Partnershp £1,000 (plus £2k towards kitchen)
Cultural Recovery Fund £2k (tower steps and tools)
Gloucestershire Historic Churches Trust £3k plus £3k
The Langtree Trust £400
National Churches Trust £3k
Rank Foundation - Pebble Grants £1,100
Warneford Ecclesiastical Charity £500 and £1,280
Wye Valley AONB via Herefordshire Community Foundation £2k
Private donations £6,250, other local fundraising and small donations £880

These include re-plastering the chancel arch, and some work on the kitchen, which is carried forward into 2022.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF MID-WYEDEAN CHURCHE

England & Wales - Charity number 1132171

Accounts

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1132171

Report of the Trustees and

Unaudited Financial Statements

For The Year Ended 31st December 2020

for

Mid Wyedean Churches

Wildin & Co
Accountants
& Statutory Auditors
Kings Buildings
Lydney
Gloucestershire
GL15 5HE

Contents of the Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 31st December 2020

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Report of the Trustees
For The Year Ended 31st December 2020

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2020. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The promotion of the Christian faith and provision of Anglican worship within the area of the Mid-Wyedean Parish and providing appropriate support of and for parishioners.

Main activities

Providing religious services (including Baptisms, Funerals and Weddings and online services and activities), providing spiritual and administrative support to Parishioners and potential visitors and engaging in activities to support those in need (eg, Coleford Community Meals).

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves policy

The charity aims for a reserve balance in excess of 25% of the normal annual expenditure.

Where there are substantial reserves of restricted funds, it will be the policy to attempt to use them for the purposes for which they were restricted, with the mission and ministry of the Church being always the main consideration.

Going concern

The unrestricted funds of the churches stands at only £18,094 as at 31st December 2020 but the Trustees consider that a going concern basis is appropriate as funds required to cover future unrestricted costs are anticipated to be sufficient.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

1132171

Principal address

Office 2, The Main Place
Old Station Way
Railway Drive
Coleford
Gloucestershire
GL16 8RH

Report of the Trustees
For The Year Ended 31st December 2020

Trustees
D Baulcomb
M Bick
P Rayner
S Simmons
S Codd
R Fordham
G Bidmead
S Sparkes
D J Hogan
B Erskine
S Bick
A Stuttard
C Fordham
J Simmons
E Bell
B Weaver
C Ruth

Independent Examiner
Lisa Clutterbuck
Wildin & Co
Accountants
& Statutory Auditors
Kings Buildings
Lydney
Gloucestershire
GL15 5HE

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 23rd February 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

S Bick - Trustee

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Mid Wyedean Churches

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Mid Wyedean Churches (the Trust) for the year ended 31st December 2020.

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 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Lisa Clutterbuck
Wildin & Co
Accountants
& Statutory Auditors
Kings Buildings
Lydney
Gloucestershire
GL15 5HE

23rd February 2021

Statement of Financial Activities
For The Year Ended 31st December 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted fund £	31.12.20 Total funds £	31.12.19 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies		**31,982**	**55,508**	**87,490**	84,901
Charitable activities					
church activities		**13,579**	**-**	**13,579**	28,196
Investment income	2	**156**	**644**	**800**	1,287
Other income		**-**	**9,175**	**9,175**	1,946
Total		**45,717**	**65,327**	**111,044**	116,330
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities					
church activities		**57,507**	**28,776**	**86,283**	104,493
Other		**939**	**19,867**	**20,806**	23,085
Total		**58,446**	**48,643**	**107,089**	127,578
Net gains/(losses) on investments		**-**	**(854)**	**(854)**	867
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		**(12,729)**	**15,830**	**3,101**	(10,381)
Transfers between funds	7	**(1,635)**	**1,635**	**-**	-
Net movement in funds		**(14,364)**	**17,465**	**3,101**	(10,381)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		**32,458**	**124,713**	**157,171**	167,552
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		**18,094**	**142,178**	**160,272**	157,171

The notes form part of these financial statements

Statement of Financial Position
31st December 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted fund £	**31.12.20 Total funds £**	31.12.19 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Investments	6	-	-	-	4,635
CURRENT ASSETS					
Cash at bank		**18,094**	**142,178**	**160,272**	152,536
NET CURRENT ASSETS		**18,094**	**142,178**	**160,272**	152,536
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		**18,094**	**142,178**	**160,272**	157,171
NET ASSETS		**18,094**	**142,178**	**160,272**	157,171
FUNDS	7				
Unrestricted funds				**18,094**	32,458
Restricted funds				**142,178**	124,713
TOTAL FUNDS				**160,272**	157,171

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 23rd February 2021 and were signed on its behalf by:

S Bick - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements
The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value.

Income
All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities on a receipts basis.

Expenditure
Expenditure is accounted for on a payments basis under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Taxation
The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting
Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Church workers pension fund
The Mid-Wyedean Parish participates in the Pension Builder scheme of the Church Workers Pension Fund. The scheme is administered by the Church of England Pensions Board. Further information is available in a separate document.

2. INVESTMENT INCOME

	31.12.20	31.12.19
	£	£
Dividends & Interest	**600**	1,287
Other income	**200**	-
	800	1,287

3. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31st December 2020 nor for the year ended 31st December 2019.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31st December 2020 nor for the year ended 31st December 2019.

continued...