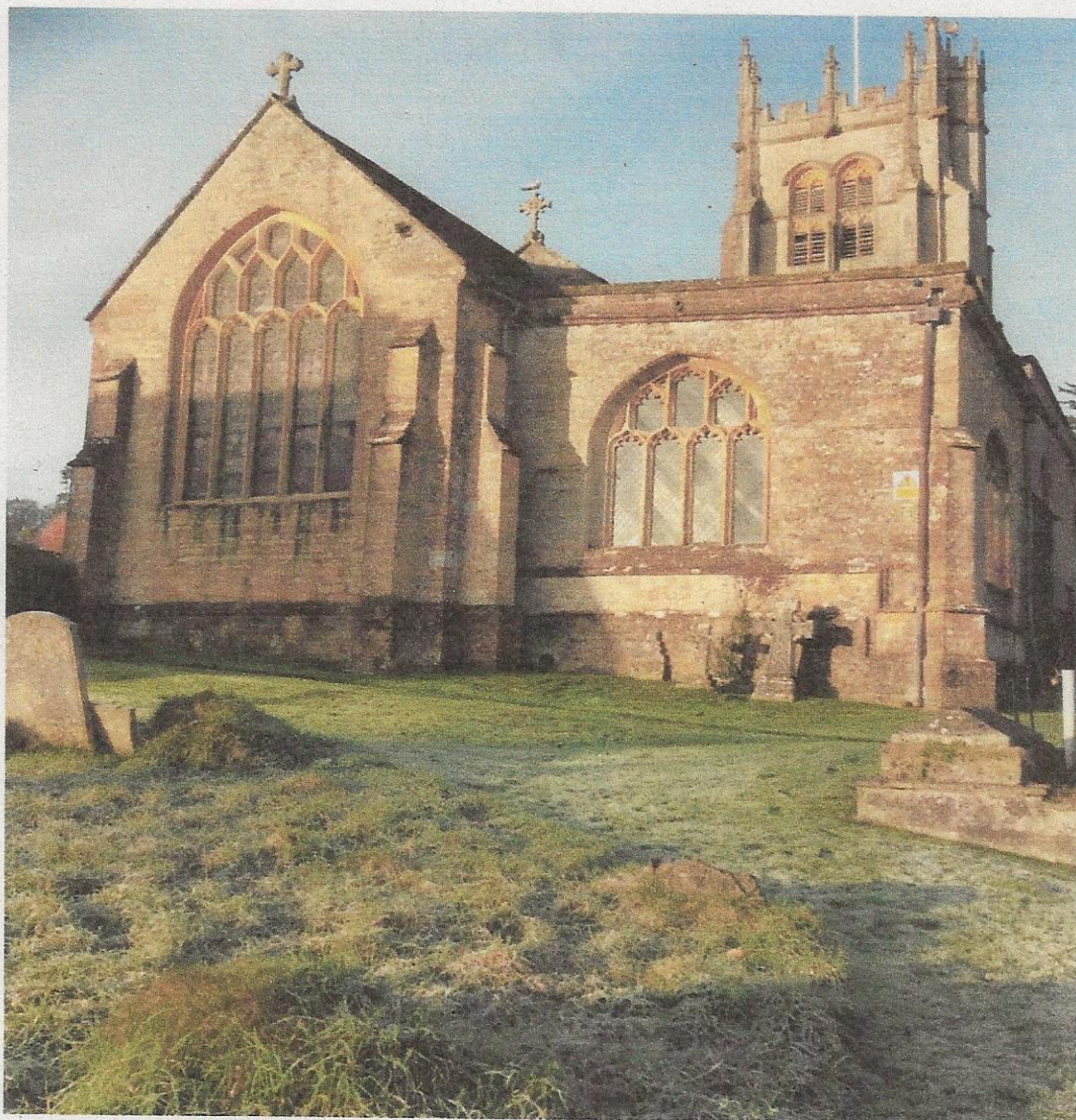


**Beaminster Area Team Ministry**



**The Parish of St Mary, Beaminster**  
(Charity Commission No. 1133757)

# Annual Report and Accounts 2021



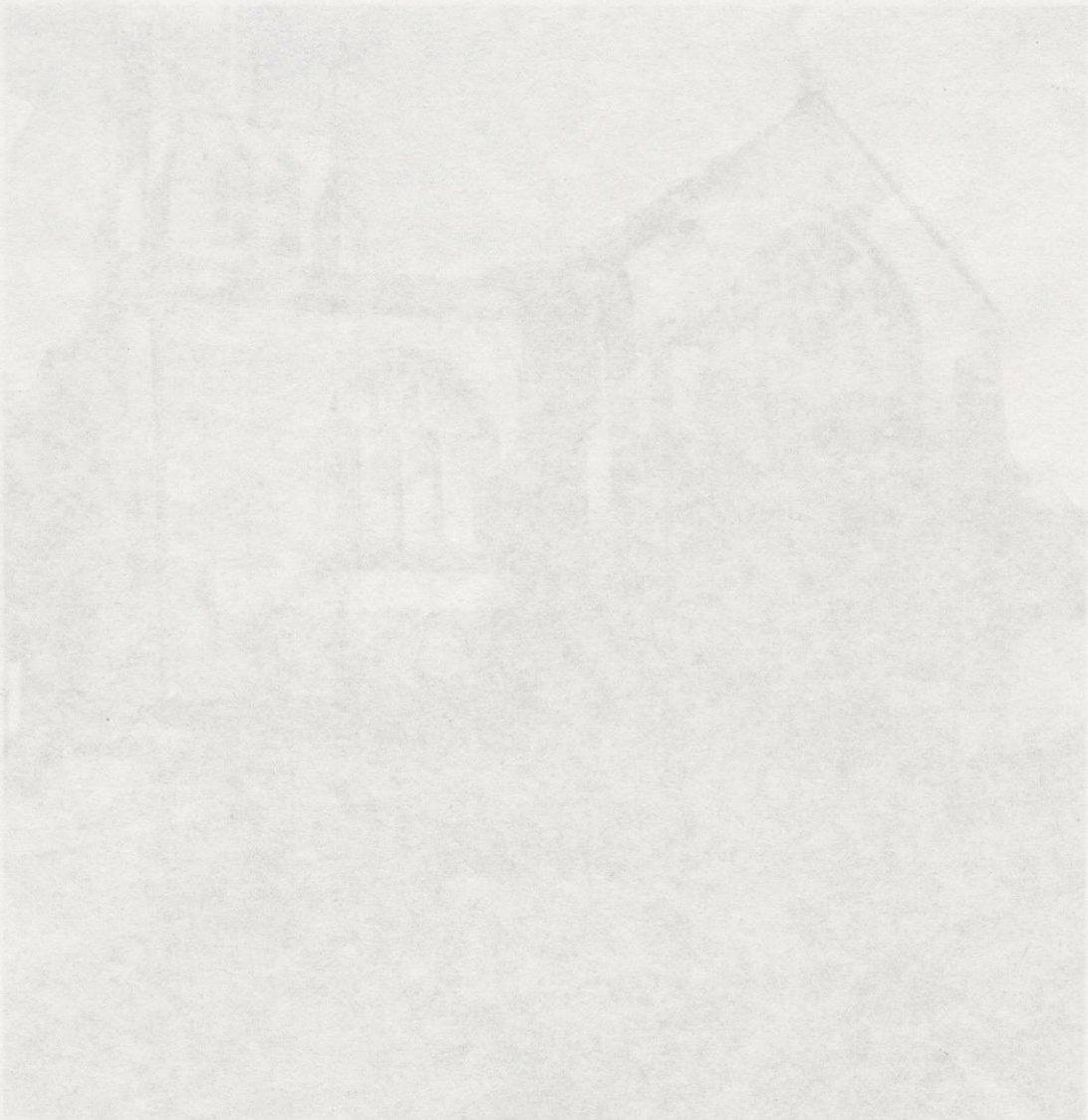


Government of the State of Maryland



The Board of State Commissioners  
(County Commission No. 115375)

# Annual Report and Accounts 2021





## St Mary's Church Beaminster

### ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2021

St. Mary's Beaminster is situated in Church Street, Beaminster. It is part of the Beaminster Team Churches and in the Diocese of Salisbury within the Church of England.

**Status:** The PCC is a registered as a Charity with the Charity Commissioners.

Charity registration No: 1133757

**Team Rector:** Revd. Canon David Baldwin

**Team Vicar:** Revd. Jo Neary

**Team Curate:** Rev. Fiona Beale

**Church Wardens:** Mrs Judith Hansen

#### **Elected Members:**

Sue Counsell, Brian Ridley Wendy Simmons and Barbara Simmonds (Standing down in 2022)

Tom Cunningham, Tony Giddings, Vivien McMurray and Dan Rootham

(Standing down in 2023) Judith Hansen, Philip Crawford and Hugh Lindsay (Standing down in 2024)

**Deanery Synod Reps:** Kath Barnett, Ann Crawford and Rudi Simmonds.

**Team Council Reps:** Judith Hansen.

**Lay Vice Chairman:** Rudi Simmonds

**Secretary to PCC:** Vivien McMurray

**Treasurer to PCC:** Wendy Simmons

**Church Office and address for correspondence:** 8, Hogshill Street, Beaminster DT8 3AE.

**Team Administrator:** Anne Woodward

**Team Online and Media Administrator:** Harry Neary

**Bank:** HSBC. 17, East Street, Bridport DT8 3JZ

**Independent Examiner:** Gareth Hewett

**Structure, Governance and Management:** the method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

**Objectives and Activities:** St. Mary's PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent the Revd Canon David Baldwin in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church-pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the church and churchyard.

**Committees and their briefs:** The Standing Committee is the only committee required by law. It has the power to transact PCC business between meetings, subject to any directions given by the PCC. The various subcommittees meet as and when required.

**Team Safeguarding Officers:** Liz Brown and Barbara Simmonds



**Team Health and Safety Advisor:** Neville Adams

**Electoral Roll Officer:** Jenny Langridge. At the end of the year there were:-101 parishioners on the roll. (Previous update: 110). 3 people died, 2 moved away, 2 people have moved into care homes and 2 people have left the congregation. The 5 year update was completed in 2019.

### **The Parochial Church Council: Review of the year January to December 2021**

Due to the continued changing restrictions caused by the **Coronavirus** pandemic, the PCC met on line via Zoom in February and in the church in July and October. The APCM was held in church in May. The Standing Committee comprising the Team Rector, Lay Vice Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary were unable to meet at the beginning of the year because of the national lockdown. Some decisions were made via telephone or email. However it was able to meet in July, September and October. Normally they gather to decide the agenda but again this year communicated as needed during the lockdowns especially as fabric issues arose. Minutes of the PCC meetings are usually displayed on the notice board in Church. The bulk of the PCC agenda is covered by reports of the work of the subcommittees: 1. Finance: Chairman Hugh Lindsay. 2. Fabric with the Church Environment Group: Rudi Simmonds, Gill Perrott and Tony Giddings. 3. Mission and Outreach: Chairman Revd Jo Neary. 4. Worship: Chairman Revd David Baldwin and Pastoral care: Chairman Rev Prebendary Alastair Wheeler. 5. A new subcommittee was set up –the Foodbank subcommittee: Chair Rev Jo Neary. Health and Safety: Chairman-vacancy. These groups also include members of the congregation and normally convene between PCC meetings sending their reports to the PCC via the secretary. 2021 has been very different again and only the Finance subcommittee met in November.

As the pandemic continued to challenge us, a further restriction came into force in the New Year. We were able to congregate at a distance and wearing masks but no singing was permitted initially. The clergy with the Media Administrator continued to put together a weekly service on line and the 'Rev Chat' spot continued to attract a dedicated following. The Pew News was circulated by email and in a paper format. Weekly prayers took place via Zoom as well as Gin Church and people kept in touch more easily than during 2020. Funerals were allowed to take place with slowly increasing numbers as the year went by but weddings were seriously affected by the government restrictions. Churches in the team remained open for private prayer.

One of our retired clergy the Rev Canon Barney Milligan died in January. So also the Rev Canon Gregory Page Turner who was becoming less well, continued to be cared for at home for some time.

Also in January the sump pump in the flooded crypt began to cause problems and Tony Giddings managed to get this replaced as a matter of urgency. However the proposed work to cover over the crypt and remove the wire cage had to be put on hold because of Covid restrictions as the virus was becoming more transmissible and the vaccination programme was in full swing.

Gill Perrott continued to carry the Carbon Zero project forward and was able to do a lot of the ground work in spite of all the restrictions. Grants were secured towards the costs.



Mothering Sunday posies were left in the porch in March as there were still no services. Reflections were printed and left in the church for Holy week. A service was held for Palm Sunday and for Easter Day. No singing was permitted but humming was allowed...behind our masks.

Our Pioneer Priest the Rev Jo Neary had a sabbatical at the beginning of the year until March.

The Duke of Edinburgh died in April with comments coming from the town as to why the flag was not flying at half- mast and this precipitated the need for specialist repairers to be called in. The flag pole was in urgent need of repair and the men doing the work could be seen from all over the town causing much amusement. A special service was later held to celebrate the life and achievements of HRH.

Considerable progress had been made regarding the west end boundary wall and work began in May. Little did we know that various issues would arise and that the work would continue well into 2022 almost doubling the costs of the original estimate. We are very grateful to Tony Giddings for overseeing this project and liaising with the neighbours on the other side of the wall!

The Bishop of Salisbury announced in July that he would retire at the end of the year. Government restrictions were eased on July 19<sup>th</sup> and choir practice was held for the first time on July 23<sup>rd</sup>. During rehearsal our Director of Music Martin Schellenberg collapsed and died while playing the organ. In spite of best efforts to revive him he did not respond, leaving the members of the choir in a state of shock. The PCC were very fortunate as the Team Rector received several offers of help to play the organ until a new Director of Music could be appointed. Martin will be remembered for his enthusiasm and musicianship. He had only been with us for 3 years and had put our lunchtime concerts and recitals 'on the map' with many supporters from the town. The musician Malcolm Archer at the organ and Winston Leese on trumpet played at his funeral in August and again the church was packed as Covid restrictions were easing further and we began to live with the virus. A Memorial Trust has been set up by his family to advance the musical education of young people with grants and awards. It was indeed fortunate that Dr Peter Nardone who was one of the team of organists who had offered to cover for Martin decided to apply for the post and was successful. He started as Director of Music on October 1<sup>st</sup>.

In September the church was able to open its doors to the community again for 'Walk in Wednesday' in a slimmed down form. Lunches would no longer be available as volunteers are reducing in number but a rota was set up to serve coffee and homemade biscuits from 11am until 12.30. The art table gradually reappeared and music became a feature as the year came to a close. Margaret Trevett who had faithfully made the soup each week died in hospital.

In July the Rev Canon Gregory Page Turner went to a nursing home near his brother but ended up back at home for a while eventually dying in September. His requiem mass in October was an unforgettable experience because of the music chosen and the incense. The choir combined with Loders church choir and a few extras for what was an uplifting occasion. We also said goodbye to Judith Eastman, June Bugler and July Bunt in 2021, the latter being a long time member of the choir. Mary Sadler moved away and Christine Whittle and Brenda Martin-Davies moved to nursing homes.

The Beaminster Festival were able to put on 3 concerts in September as there had not been the usual programme in June and July.



The Finance subcommittee met in November to investigate the investment of some of the funds that were given as legacies to the church and later reported back to the PCC. In December our Treasurer said that she would be standing down at the end of the financial year due to personal issues. The PCC is very grateful to her for all her hard work and commitment over the last 8 years.

Grateful thanks must also go to Jean Owen who has worked tirelessly to make sure that the church has been beautifully decorated with flowers, organised and decorated the Christmas tree, set up the Crib and after 10 years stood down at the end of the year. The duties have been divided up across the team of flower arrangers. We were able to decorate at Easter and Christmas keeping respectable distances from each other and even managed to celebrate at Christmas with Prosecco and mince pies, much to the amusement of Ben Sabran our stonemason who was up on the rood screen clearing cobwebs. (He deserves a mention as well for tirelessly clearing gutters and keeping the rooks out of the belfry, jet washing the paths and mending pinnacles and crumbling masonry )

In the autumn we were able to plan for the usual services of Remembrance, Advent and Christmas with a Christmas bazaar held in church by the community. A memorial concert was held in aid of the Martin Schellenberg Music Trust as a Christmas Fanfare with mulled wine and mince pies. This was well supported and proved to be a rousing occasion. So with more optimism bringing another very eventful year to a close....

Thanks must go to all the people who keep the church going.... wash the tea towels empty the bins, make the coffee, put out tables and chairs, set up the play equipment , mow the churchyard and weed the beds, put out the books, stock up the candles, distribute the Christmas cards, count the money, welcome the visitors... I could go on....We could not do it without you. Thank you.

*Vivien McMurray (PCC Secretary)*

### **St. Mary's Ringing Guild Report**

After the National Lockdown and the restrictions imposed in 2020, life was slightly easier although there was still no general ringing in 2021. The tenor bell was rung half muffled when Sir Tom Moore died. The tenor rang out again for HRH the Duke of Edinburgh following his death. A lighter bell, also half muffled was rung at the time of the Duke's funeral in keeping with towers throughout the U.K. and the wider ringing world. For Canon Milligan's funeral a single, half muffled bell was sounded. At Easter we rang hand bells in the churchyard as the congregation arrived for the service.

By July we were able to meet to ring for services once again. There were still restrictions on the duration (45 minutes), the number allowed in the tower (six only for the 6 bells rung) with everyone wearing masks and using the hand sanitiser. We also kept all the windows open wide, the door and trapdoor in the ceiling ajar. It was cold but it kept us safe!

Going into February 2022 a quarter peal to mark the Queen's ascension to the throne in 1952 rang out. The six ringers were all West Dorset Guild members.

We only have seven regular ringers so rarely ring all 10 bells. However bell ringing life is beginning to feel a little more normal and we are even abandoning our masks....

*Jill Parr (Tower Captain)*



### St. Mary's Church Flower Arrangers

The team managed to keep the church decorated with flowers as much as possible this year as the doors were always open and we were not subject to any total lockdown as in 2020. I have been responsible for organising the team since 2012 and have really enjoyed the experience. I decided to stand down at the end of 2021 and following a meeting in November the tasks have been divided up between a new creative team headed by Rita Cowie. We are fortunate to have recruited some more people and they come with bright new ideas. I know that we can look forward to seeing beautiful and colourful arrangements in the future. My very sincere thanks go to the team for all their help and support over the last 10 years and I know will continue to support Rita.

*Jean Owen*

### Pastoral Care

Over the last year, I have continued to supervise and encourage the small and shrinking team of Lay pastoral Assistants. LPA's are a feature of church life encouraged and trained by the Diocese to have a particular concern in caring for one another and for others in our wider community. Those cared for in this way range from people who are sick or housebound, including taking communion out to some of them on a regular basis, regular visiting and pastoral contact, to welcoming young Mums who are contacting the clergy for Baptism or involved in other church groups.

Sadly the team has shrunk in size over the last year, down to just 4 people but they do a ley bit of work for our church communities. LPA's names and contact numbers are printed in the Team News. If you or someone you know feels that an LPA may be able to help them, you are asked to talk to David or Jo in the first instance so that they know who is being supported in this way.

*Alastair Wheeler*



# CHURCH ATTENDANCE FIGURES FOR 2021 (Coronavirus - reduced services) WITH COMPARISON FOR 2020

	Sunday 8.00		Sunday 09.30		Sunday Evensong		Wednesday 10.00		Breakfast @ 10.00		Messy Church	
	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020
Number of services	41	33	41	33	2	33	10	0	4	2		
Attendance (Adults)	326	336	1870	1456	24	360	89	0	108	60		
Attendance (under 16)	1	0	10	6	0	0	0	0	75	51		
Average attendance all ages	8	10	46	44	0	12	11	9	0	46	56	

## All ages

Christmas Eve/Day attendance  
Services during Advent attendance  
Remembrance Service attendance

Saint Days and Special Services  
School Services

Baptism Under 16  
Marriages  
Thanksgiving Service/deceased  
Funerals in church  
Burial  
Interment of Ashes  
Funerals elsewhere

Home Communion

	2021	2020
	129	100
	143	51
	138	0
	83	19
	370	
	3	1
	6	1
	3	0
	7	3
	2	4
	6	5
	6	16
	24	72

Once again, our team of clergy have excelled themselves with innovative methods to continue mission throughout lockdown. Pre-recorded Sunday worship and 'live streamed' discussion/prayer meetings using Facebook, YouTube and Zoom became more popular. We believe that we had around 35 people using this kind of 'remote' worship who would not normally have attended our regular church services.

Our worshipping community at the end of 2021, (including both those people who attend regularly in person and those who regularly attend our Church at Home services) was in the region of 169, of those 19 were children aged 0-10 years, 37 adults aged between 18-69 years and 113 aged 70+. These figures were recorded in the Stats for Mission for Beaminster 2021 and submitted to Salisbury.

Marlene Jackaman  
March 2022



## **The Beaminster Area Team Annual Clergy Report 2022 (Reviewing the year January to December 2021)**

The year 2021 began in a similar vein to 2020 with lockdown and closure of team churches. Worship was suspended from February including Lent and we returned on Palm Sunday. Understandably it took a few months for confidence to return and congregation numbers to start returning to pre-pandemic levels. Other activities were slow to return and parish finances have reported difficulties.

I have written in past annual reports on the difficulties of finding officers to fill the needed positions on PCCs. Last year's APCMs yet again showed up the continuing fragility across the team with five churches unable to elect any churchwardens, and just three with the required two wardens. The pressure upon individuals to single-handedly carry out day to day requirements is unreasonable.

Last year I shared Neville Adams' concerns over the church in Drimpton and we are now dealing with what this means in reality. Following a meeting with the wider community and Archdeacon I have been working with a small group of parishioners to see what the future holds for the church. Without a sense of reality I can see this pattern spreading in the team. I am aware just how hard so many of you work to keep the show on the road and I express my sincere and heartfelt thanks to everyone of you.

The upkeep of ancient and listed buildings is a drain on parishes across the country, not only in terms of time but also in finances. Added to this are the costs associated with the upkeep of churchyards. Long gone are the days when the local community saw it as a form of pride to give their time to help, although we still have a few churchyards where this tradition is maintained in some ways. I was grateful to those parishes who took the Generous Giving scheme seriously and to those who responded with their support. Also I would like to thank our treasurers for the diligent way in which they maintained payment of the parish share as a priority.

The outcome of the Church 2030 consultations was that we should be looking at six areas; prayer, study, working with the community, management of parishes, families and children, and discipleship. I have added in pioneering new ways of being church. I hope that across the team we can make these our priorities going forward. I recognise how much work is already going on within parish communities. I hope that we can provide support to parishes from within the wider team from volunteers who have a passion for discipleship and seeing growth.

I would like to thank my colleagues, especially Jo and Fiona for their continued prayer and support in the mission and ministry of the team. Also to our partner priests, licensed lay ministers, lay worship leaders, lay pastoral assistants, those who administer the team and office; Mandy Alford, Brian Ridley, and office volunteers. I also thank Anne Woodward and Harry Neary for their outstanding work and support in the administration, communications, and technology required in keeping a team of this size running smoothly. There are also many other people who may have been missed but I will do my best to put this right at each annual parish meeting.

**Revd Canon David Baldwin   Team Rector**



Jo writes:

The highlights of 2021 for me have been gradually getting back to a more familiar way of being church together in person, celebrating new things flourishing, growing despite Covid challenges, and the joy of being able to sing again in church.

We maintained a good connection to our children and families via weekly recorded collective worship for schools and online Messy Church but it has been a joy to return to in person worship both in school and at Messy Church. Summer holiday activities in Drimpton and Salway Ash were well attended and highly valued for gathering people back together safely. Walk in Wednesday returned in September and has flourished in a new and slightly shorter format which has less impact on the volunteers. The foodbank has continued to be well supported by our churches and used more than ever by those in need.

New things have flourished too. We have a new toddler and baby group in Beaminster supporting baptism ministry throughout the team. And a growing number of disciples in our Zoom community meeting Gin Church. Our online community on social media and YouTube continues to thrive and is probably the third biggest congregation in the team after schools and St Mary's Beaminster. We had a really positive time engaging with both the Bible Course led by Fiona and the Living in Love and Faith course led by the whole deanery. The only sadness was the small number of people who engaged.

There was joy to be had in outdoor worship particularly in Blackdown and Salway Ash and I hope this could be developed in the future, perhaps to include children and families.

The lows? The inevitable struggle to find volunteers to do everything and to avoid overburdening the same people and the sadness of those who have got out of the habit of church and haven't returned. Also the continued pressure from the diocese and the wider church to succeed and grow new things and flourish when the real success has just been to keep going. I also feel we need to pray more because when we pray things grow, when we don't pray we just stay still. How might you be able to find time each week to commit to pray for new things happening in the team?

A huge thank you to all the volunteers who don't just keep the show on the road but also do amazing things well beyond the boundaries of usual Sunday worship. There is much to do together, do come and join in with what God is doing in the Beaminster Area Team.



## Beaminster Foodbank report 2021

Beaminster Foodbank, based at Prout Bridge, continues to work hard to support vulnerable families and individuals in Beaminster and the surrounding villages.

We operate as a subcommittee of Beaminster PCC and this subcommittee functions as the Beaminster Foodbank management committee. Current membership is Rev Jo Neary Chair, Helen Smith Foodbank manager, Cheryl Mackenzie Volunteer coordinator and Joy Edwards Treasurer.

Our finances currently reside in the Team Office account managed by Mandy Alford and Anne Woodward. Our money is ringfenced and Joy Edwards keeps our accounts independently and they have been reconciled with the Team office bank account at the year end. During the year we have received a number of donations from Dorset Council and individual donors. We prefer people to donate to the foodbank through giving food or using the voucher system at Nick Tett's and Fruit and Two Veg. We have strong financial reserves currently. We would very much like to have our own bank account and access to online banking under the charitable status umbrella of the PCC. We hope that with the new PCC treasurer this will be possible very soon.

Food bank use has increased year on year for every year the foodbank has been open. Last year we fed 748 people with 319 food parcels. Amazingly our donations have kept pace with the increased need. We are very grateful for our donors' generosity. Foodbank usage figures are reported monthly to Dorset Council. We are currently feeding more single people than families, but this can change month by month. There is very little variation across the school holidays and term time, the need holds up across the year. We have seen increased referrals from Magna and CAB and Domestic violence and other charities and local family workers. We also accept self-referrals, although there have been fewer of those. There are a few repeat users that use us every week and we are beginning to have those conversations with individuals about stopping dependence on the food bank. It is really positive having CAB on hand as they operate a drop-in service on Friday morning at Prout Bridge. We are currently in the process of recruiting new volunteers to our team.

We are so grateful for the hard work of our volunteer foodbank manager, Helen Smith and all our volunteers who keep the food bank running and supporting people in need.



## Beaminster St Mary's Academy

2021 was yet another year of turbulence and change for our church primary school. We began the year in lockdown when many children were learning at home. We had a strong remote learning offer for our children and were able to be open to welcome key worker and vulnerable children. Thankfully school reopened fully in March but since then attendance has been lower than we would like as Covid continued to spread and isolation rules were observed.

During the summer term we were outside as much as possible, classes were kept separate from others in bubbles and a sense of normality returned. Huge progress was made in our Early Years with a fantastic new early years classroom and outdoor space allowing for free flow between inside and outside and a creative and stimulating learning environment. Great progress was also made in phonics, adopting a new phonics scheme, training staff and embedding good teaching across the school. Both developments were noted positively in our interim Ofsted inspection in May 2021.

We were able to appoint three new members of staff after several resignations and in September 2021 we began with great hope and with an increased number of children on roll. Sadly, Covid continued to challenge us but our new staff team worked well together and children were feeling positive about being in school and learning. At Christmas we were so pleased to be able to host the whole school at our Experience Christmas event led by the Messy Church team and to hold a Christmas carol service. Sadly, we said goodbye in December 2021 to the headteacher, Mrs Carys Barnett, and we thanked her for her hard work and commitment to raising standards. We welcomed a new headteacher, Mr Darren Marklew, in January 2022 along with a new chair of governors, Mr Steven Loveridge and we look forward to making more progress in raising standards and becoming a good school where every child can flourish.



## **St Mary's Church Beaminster**

### **Annual report from the Gardening Team 2021**

The Gardening Team: Jenny Tyler, Jean Sherlock, Ian Largent and Keith and Ing-Marie Beldham.

I am pleased to report that the main activity this past year has been the start of repairs to the West Wall. We are all very pleased to have such Craftsmen, who are very nice fellows doing this important work.

The new Shed is to be delivered in the new year and Keith and Ian will clear out the old to make ready for the new. The Compost area has been turned over to start again.

The Wilding area is still somewhat disappointing the grass grows very high and the flowers do not seem to have a chance. We have planted a lot of Yellow Rattle to help with this as it thrives in grass. The Snowdrops in the main Graveyard area are wonderful in the early Spring.

The bed near to the Lift is probably the most challenging as the shrubs have been in there for many years and are now very deep rooted. However thanks to Ing-Marie and Jean who have worked wonders on it and it is looking very good. We are all working very hard on the Valerian which looks very pretty in flower, but unfortunately reseeds all over the Churchyard and roots deeply into the walls and stonework causing the mortar to break up and the stones to loosen.

I hope it is appreciated how lovely the Memorial garden always looks due mainly to Ian who gets down there earlier in morning than the rest of us to cut the grass.

I have to report that the Churchyard is in need of serious consideration with the Grave Stones leaning and grass coming up through, which cannot be easily dealt with. Some expert advice is needed.

Jenny Tyler



## **ECO Church report for 2021**

Since gaining the ECO Church Gold Award we have continued to be involved in different projects. However difficulties have continued with Covid restrictions. We started with an ECO Group Zoom on 9 January 2021 to think about what we could do. Throughout the year some of us attended various Zoom & Webinar meetings on Eating Ethically, Creativity against Climate Change, West Dorset Environment Alliance ( WDEA ), Sustainable Dorset, Multifaith Climate Action Change, Fairtrade Fortnight Ecumenical Service (no public gathering was possible), C of E Buildings Environment Department Webinars on Lighting, Heating, Carbon Zero and Low Carbon Dorset discussing our Carbon Zero Project.

Most of the concentration 2021 has been on how to reduce our Church building Carbon Footprint in line with our Archbishop's request for churches to be Carbon Zero by 2030. We had already started with work on our Carbon Zero Project at the end of 2020. This will involve a 40 panel Solar installation on the South Aisle roof. This will assist in the running of two Air Source Heat Pumps and exporting excess renewable energy. The boiler would still be needed for the occasional use of the wall heaters. This would significantly reduce our use of gas. Face to face events linked to the project started with the Energy Audit in February, Structural Engineer assessment of the South Aisle roof in March, Acoustic Survey in September and various meetings with installers on site throughout the year. Continued work on the Faculty Application (C of E buildings planning permission ) and submission of Planning Application with Dorset Council in September is ongoing. The planning notice was duly posted on the church railings in October.

Other events included a Church Wildlife Count ( part of a national Caring for God's Acre ) in June, causing much interest & good attendance. Our results were submitted to the national database. We took part with the Town Council and Beaminster Area ECO Group in running The Beaminster Big Green Day in September. This was also part of the national Big Green Week and the launch of the Beaminster Earth Alliance.

November 2021 saw a Traidcraft stall in the back of church selling goods including Christmas cards.

Gillian, on behalf of the church, took part in the Hilfield Centenary Service & Planting Day in December. We now have a tree number 52 as part of a 100 tree plantation.

Gillian Perrott



**St Mary of the Annunciation, Beaminster**  
**APCM Music Report, 2021**

It was on hearing of the very sad death of Martin Schellenberg in July that I telephoned the Rector to offer my services as an organist. Living locally in Loders, and as a long-time acquaintance and friend of Martin's, I felt I could not sit idly by when there was a pressing need for an organist at St Mary's Beaminster. I had left my job in Worcester in 2018 and having worked in cathedrals (Chelmsford and Worcester) for 18 years I had no desire to tie myself down to providing church music for the next part of my life. However I continued to play the hymns and voluntaries for the Sunday services here at St Mary's for the rest of July and August 2021 and came to the conclusion that, whilst I had needed a break from church music I now felt comfortable with the desired commitment in Beaminster.

These summer services were tinged with sadness. Of course, there was no choir singing and we had no musical setting of the communion service to sing as restrictions seemed still to be in place, in the uncertain way that we had come to accept from our government. As a result the services were simple yet beautiful. This period allowed me time to gradually get to know members of choir, congregation and clergy, and in September it felt like the right thing to take up the role as Director of Music and Organist.

Since September the choir has been rehearsing and we have begun to sing services and anthems once again. Things feel a little more normal and there has been a spirit of optimism and uplift in our worship. Brian Ridley has been a supportive and warm colleague, playing for services and taking choir practices when I have been away. My settling in has been made much easier with the practical help from Vivien McMurray and Dan Rootham. As I am now venturing down the dangerous path of naming individuals I will come to an abrupt halt, acutely aware that the community of those who have welcomed and helped is too great to number. Thank you all.

Advent and Christmas displayed the range of services that we would all recognise as normal and the choir's contribution to the carol services seemed to be very much appreciated by those who worshipped with us.

The near future will see the reintroduction of a monthly music scheme for services (posted in the North Porch), weekly anthems from the choir, appropriate organ voluntaries and hymns, the introduction of new congregational communion settings and a series of lunchtime organ recitals on Thursdays in June and July. In all of this I am mindful of Proverbs 16:9 The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps. We live in uncertain and, in many ways, unhappy times but I believe that if we listen to the teachings of Jesus and plan in faith, God will do the rest.

*Peter Nardone*  
*Director of Music & Organist*  
*February 2022*



## **SAFEGUARDING – report for the year 2020-2021**

It is good to remind ourselves that safeguarding is the responsibility of everyone.

In our churches we are called to provide a welcome for all, with particular regard for those who are most vulnerable, to value and respect everyone and to ensure a safe and trustworthy environment.

Thank you for all you do in your parishes to turn these words into reality.

In the last year, as the Covid19 pandemic has continued to cause great anxiety in the world, people in the Team have successfully worked together in their parishes to provide safe spaces for worship, bearing in mind the needs of their own communities.

We can report that all necessary DBS checks have been completed and recorded on the Beaminster Team Microsite. This is part of the Diocesan site which Barbara and Liz are able to access and which carries a record of all those in the Team who have DBS clearance.

Training sessions have continued online.

At Diocesan level there have been changes to the staffing. Filling the role vacated by Heather Bland are Jem Carter and Suzy Fitcher who share the Diocesan Safeguarding Officer position.

Johnathan Whiter remains as Safeguarding Trainer and Christine Romano provides Safeguarding Admin Support- DBS enquiries.

Barbara Simmonds

Liz Brown

Parish Safeguarding Officers

Because of the level of our annual income, St. Mary's Beaminster has to be registered with the Charity Commission. This means that all PCC members are regarded as trustees and as such, require DBS clearance. I am pleased to be able to report that all the necessary checks have now been completed.



**Friends of St. Mary's Church, Beaminster**  
**AGM 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2022**  
**Treasurer's Report**

As you can see it is a healthy balance with very little expenditure last year. You will also notice the interest accrued on the deposit account was a pittance – £13.69 last year and £236.59 in 2020. There have been new developments with regard to bank charges. What was a Community Bank Account has now been replaced by a Charitable Bank Account. This new account carries a monthly fee of £5.00; a 40p charge on every cheque paid in or out; a 0.40% charge on the value of cash paid in, plus a 40p charge for every transaction. For this reason I am encouraging Friends to donate by standing order where possible.

We are living in strange times and the last 2 years have seen many changes amongst our donors. When I took over as treasurer from Jane Blake in 2015 there were 110 members plus life members and now the number stands at 97 including 30 life members. Sadly we have lost 15 of our membership in recent times. Several new members have already been recruited this year and hopefully some of the numerous newcomers to Beaminster can be encouraged to support the Friends and in doing so help to preserve our beautiful Church for future generations. If you are able to approach anyone who might be interested in joining us there are leaflets available which can be handed out.

During the year the Committee is planning two fund raising events, a Jazz concert on the 9th April and then a concert by Parnham Voices on the 22<sup>nd</sup> October. The plans to refurbish the kitchen and to provide a WC in the Church are progressing and will go ahead once the main drainage has been addressed.

I am standing down as treasurer and looking for a replacement to join the committee. It isn't an onerous job, the committee meet several times a year. I would be happy to stay on the committee for a year to work with the new treasurer if needed.

Lastly on behalf of the Friends I would like to thank Linda le Breton for auditing the accounts and Brian Ridley for submitting the claim for the tax recovery on Gift Aided donations. A cheque (£178.75) for the 2020 claim was too late to be included in the accounts.

Gill Sansom  
Treasurer

12<sup>th</sup> February 2022



**Friends of St Mary's Church, Beaminster**  
**Income and Expenditure for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021**

	2021	2020
<b>Income</b>		
Donations (subscriptions inc some for 2020)	1,270.00	785.00
Tax Recovery		278.75
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,270.00</b>	<b>1,063.75</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Admin' photocopying	9.68	13.24
Stamps & Stationery		19.47
Gift Token – auditor		5.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>9.68</b>	<b>37.71</b>
<b>Statement of Account</b>		
Carried forward HSBC	2,689.13	102,616.06
Carried forward CCLA	115,220.39	14,030.83
<b>Total resources at start of year</b>	<b>117,909.52</b>	<b>116,646.89</b>
Income	1,270.00	1,063.75
Interest CCLA	13.69	236.59
	<b>119,193.21</b>	<b>117,947.23</b>
<b>Less Expenditure</b>	<b>9.68</b>	<b>37.71</b>
	<b>119,183.53</b>	<b>117,909.52</b>
<b>Represented by</b>		
Balance at HSBC	3,949.45	2,689.13
<b>Balance at CCLA</b>	<b>115,234.08</b>	<b>115,220.39</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>119,183.53</b>	<b>117,909.52</b>



# **St Mary's Beaminster Parochial Church Council - General Account** **Financial Statement for year ended 31 December 2021**

2020	RECEIPTS	2021
£		£
43,557	Regular Giving	41,176
3,345	Collections	3,911
1,057	Hospitality	314
-	Eco Group	
1,083	Other Giving	1,357
2,559	Team News	2,257
43,136	Various Other Collections (see note 1)	2,908
<b>94,737</b>	<b>Receipts from Parishioners</b>	<b>51,923</b>
12,204	Tax Recovery	12,163
1,571	Fund Raising	931
-	Book Sales	205
<b>13,775</b>	<b>Total Voluntary</b>	<b>13,299</b>
1,000	Hire of Church	870
2,893	Fees	7,665
70	Interest	7
-	Miscellaneous	118
<b>112,475</b>	<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>73,882</b>
	<b>PAYMENTS</b>	
56,144	Parish Share	56,143
	Team Overheads	
5,375	Team Expenses	5,178
1,500	Church Office	1,500
	Receipts Disbursed	
2,559	Team News	2,219
43,136	Various	2,908
1,105	Transfer to fabric Account	-
	Services Support	
-	Organ Maintenance	1,020
6,563	Choir & Organist	6,305
337	Supplies (Parish Admin)	802
1,055	Printing, Stationery & Postage	1,292
	Bank Charges	27
<b>117,774</b>	<b>Carried forward</b>	<b>77,394</b>



117,774	Brought forward	77,394
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**Church Building & Grounds**

7,020	Insurance	6,975
4,470	Utilities	1,041
	<u>Repairs &amp; Renewals</u>	
-	Flag Pole	696
-	Alarm	542
5,429	Maintenance	2,795
1,250	Churchyard	1,719
536	Cleaning	525
144	Refuse	49

**Mission & Outreach**

791	Hospitality	284
499	ECO Group	-
82	Social	-
94	Flower Fund	470
94	Health & Safety	74

**Donations**

1,000	Sudan	-
1,500	Other	-

1,000	<b>Stroke Room</b>	1,000
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<u>141,683</u>	<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>	<u>93,564</u>
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<b>-29,208</b>	<b>DEFICIT FOR THE YEAR</b>	<b>-19,682</b>
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35,000	Legacies - Talbot	-
-	Transfers from the Fabric Account	50,000

<u>5,792</u>	<b>NET MOVEMENT FOR THE YEAR</b>	<u>30,318</u>
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2020		2021
£		£
	<b>Bank Accounts</b>	
10,132	HSBC Accounts	15,854
15,173	CCLA Account	15,243
<u>25,305</u>	Resources at the beginning of the year	<u>31,097</u>
5,792	Net movement for the year	30,318
<u>31,097</u>	Resources at the end of the year	<u>61,415</u>
	<b>Represented by:</b>	
15,854	HSBC Account at 31 December 2021	46,164
15,243	CCLA Account at 31 December 2021	15,251
<u>31,097</u>		<u>61,415</u>

Approved by the PCC on

and signed on behalf of the PCC by:

Reverend Canon David Baldwin (Rector)

*David Bell*

Marlene Jackaman

*Ms Jackaman*

Reviewed and agreed to the books and records by:

Gareth Hewett

*G. Hewett*  
12 MAY 2022

#### Notes

(1) Various other collections/payments (in/out)

Christian Aid	1,921
RBL Remembrance Service	251
Easter Offerings	277
Cash	164
Gift Aid (Friends)	179
Strode Room (correction payment error)	89
Calligraphy	15
D Baldwin	12
	<u>2,908</u>



2,908	D Baldwin
12	Calligraphy
12	Stode Room (correction payment error)
89	Gift Aid (Friends)
179	Cash
164	Easter Offerings
277	RBL Remembrance Service
251	Christian Aid
1,921	(1) Various other collections/payments (in/out)

Notes  
(1) Various other collections/payments (in/out)

12 MAY 2022  
*G. Hewitt*

Gareth Hewitt

Reviewed and agreed to the books and records by:

*Marlene Jackman*

Marlene Jackman

Reverend Canon David Baldwin (Rector)

*David Baldwin*

Approved by the PCC on  
and signed on behalf of the PCC by:

61,412
12,251
46,164

Represented by:  
CCLA Account at 31 December 2021  
HSBC Account at 31 December 2021

81,412
30,318

Resources at the end of the year  
Net movement for the year

31,097
12,243
12,824

Resources at the beginning of the year  
CCLA Account  
HSBC Accounts  
Bank Accounts

31,097
2,792
28,305
12,173
10,132

2020

2021



# St Mary's Beaminster Parochial Church Council - Fabric Account

## Financial Statement for year ended 31 December 2021

2020		2021
£		£
	<b>INCOME</b>	
10,105	Donations	-
156	CAF	156
1,923	Grant - Listed Place of Worship	-
<u>12,184</u>		<u>156</u>
	<b>Legacies</b>	
320,904	Talbot	3,399
55,000	Gildersleve	22,827
1,000	Livingstone	-
1,000	Palk	-
-	Dennis	12,857
-	Maw	10,000
-	Rivers	3,000
		<u>52,083</u>
76	Interest	9
<u>390,164</u>	<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<u>52,248</u>
	<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	
-	Architects Fees	16,665
-	Heating and Plumbing Works	1,370
-	Building Works - Surveys and Fees	6,055
-	Works to Retaining Wall	25,485
<u>-</u>	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<u>-49,575</u>
<u>390,164</u>	<b>SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR</b>	<u>2,673</u>
-	Transfer to the General Account	-50,000
<u>390,164</u>	<b>TOTAL MOVEMENT DURING THE YEAR</b>	<u>-47,327</u>



2020  
£

2021  
£

**Bank Accounts**

87,491	HSBC Accounts
17,732	CCLA Account
<u>105,223</u>	Resources at the beginning of the year
390,164	Net movement for the year
<u>495,387</u>	Resources at the end of the year

477,579	
17,808	
<u>495,387</u>	
-47,327	
<u>448,060</u>	

**Represented by:**

477,579	HSBC Account at 31 December 2021
17,808	CCLA Account at 31 December 2021
<u>495,387</u>	

430,243	
17,817	
<u>448,060</u>	

Approved by the PCC on

and signed on behalf of the PCC by:

Reverend Canon David Baldwin (Rector)

*David Bell*

Marlene Jackaman

*Marlene Jackaman*

Reviewed and agreed to the books and records by:

Gareth Hewett

*G. Skid*

12 MAY 2022



## **Beaminster Parochial Church Council**

### **Accounting Policies**

#### **Accounting Convention**

The financial Statements are prepared under the historical cost convention.

#### **Incoming Resources**

Contributions receivable are accounted for in the period to which they relate.

#### **Resources Expended**

Expenditure is accounted for on the cash accounting basis.

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### **Independent Examiner's Report to the members of the Beaminster Parochial Church Council**

I report on the St Mary's Beaminster Parochial Church Council Fabric Fund Account and the St Mary's Beaminster Parochial Church Council – General Fund Account for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021.

### **Responsibilities and duties of the members of the Beaminster Parochial Church Council**

As members, you are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records and for the preparation of the accounts as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021 for the two funds listed above.

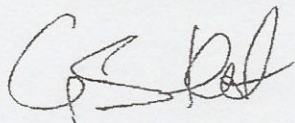
### **Basis of Independent Examiner's report**

An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by you and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items, and seeking explanations from you concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by these accounts.

### **Independent Examiner's Statement**

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

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements to keep proper accounting records has not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



**Gareth Hewett**  
Independent Examiner

12 May 2022