



The Parish of Yate

Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31st December 2020
(In line with the terms of the Charities Act 1993 & the Church Representation Rules)



St Mary's Church, Yate
St Nicholas' Church, Abbotswood
St James' Church, Westerleigh
St Peter's Church, Wapley

Deanery of Kingswood & South Gloucestershire

Archdeaconry of Malmesbury

Diocese of Bristol

Parish Number 55/180
Registered Charity number: 1133980

Mission Statement

GROWING in Christ, SERVING our communities, BUILDING God's kingdom

The Trustees 2020

The members of the PCC are the Trustees of the "charity" and share the responsibility with the Ministry Team for promoting the whole work of the Church in the ecclesiastical parish.

Members of the PCC are either ex officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

Team Rector	The Revd Ian Wallace	
Team Vicar	The Revd. Iain Macfarlane	
Associate Ministers	The Revd. Hywel Snook, The Revd. Chris Ainslie	
Curates	The Revd. Gail Thomas, The Revd. Joanne Hodge	
PCC Secretary	Mrs Sue Harrison (fin. off. Jan 2020), Mrs Pamela Brown (from Jan 2020)	
PCC Treasurer	Mrs Christine Dolton (fin. off. Sept 2020), Mr Stephen Lord (from Sept 2020)	
Church Wardens	Mrs Kathleen Anderson (resigned Sept 2020), Mr John Cornforth, Mrs Claire Hayward (from Sept 2020), Mrs Mary Farrell (from Sept 2020)	St Mary St James St Nicholas St Peter
	Mr Patrick Mills, Mrs June Powell	
	Mrs Anne White	
	Mr Mike Collis, Mrs Shirley Dando	

Deanery Synod Representatives

Dr Patrick Mills (fin. off. Sept 2020) (St J), Mrs June Powell (from Sept 2020) (St J), Mrs Ros Bailey (St N), Mrs. Kathleen Anderson (fin. off. Sept 2020) (St M), Mrs Julia Holbrook (from Sept 2020) (St M), Mrs Christine Dolton (from Sept 2020) (St P)

Elected PCC Members

Three members from each DCC of which one is to be the DCC Finance Officer.

Mrs Heather Smith (re-elected); Mrs Mary Perks; Mrs Julia Holbrook (from Sept 2020)	
Mrs Clare Hayward (from 2020)	- St Mary
Mr David Warren (re-elected); Mr Paul Thurlow (fin. office. July 2020), two vacancies-	- St Nicholas
Mrs Kathryn Mills; Mrs Joy Archer; one vacancy	- St James
Mrs Janet Williams (re-elected); Mr. Wulstan Perks; one vacancy	- St Peter

Co-opted PCC Members

There are currently no co-opted members of the PCC.

PCC Standing Committee

Revd Ian Wallace (Chair); Revd Iain Macfarlane; Mrs Susan Harrison (Secretary) (fin. off. Jan 2020); Mrs Pamela Brown (Secretary) (from Jan 2020), Mrs Kathleen Anderson (fin. off. deceased Dec 2020) (St M); Mr Mike Collis (St P); Mrs Kathryn Mills (St J); Mrs. Heather Smith (St M); Mrs Christine Dolton; Mr Stephen Lord (Treasurer from Sept 2020); Mr David Warren

Parish Safeguarding Mrs Beverley Hodgson

Parish Health & Safety Officer: Mr Gus Smith.

Gift Aid Officer: Mr Stephen Lord

Data Protection: Revd. Hywel Snook

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Churches

St Mary
St James
St Peter
St Nicholas

Gift Aid Organisers

Mr Terry Carter
Mrs Kathryn Mills
Mr Mike Collis
Mr David Warren

Electoral Roll Officers

Mrs Wendy Feltham
Mr Andrew Rapson
Mr Mike Collis
Mrs Moira Jenkins

Health & Safety

Mrs Mary Farrell
Mr Norman Shanks
Mr Mike Collis
Mrs Ros Bailey

Churches

St Mary
St James
St Peter
St Nicholas

Child Safety

Mrs Beverley Hodgson
Mr Richard Lewis (fin.off July 2020) – position currently vacant
Mrs. Janet Williams
Mrs. Ros Bailey

The Parish Governing Structure

The PCC provides an overview of the Parish linking it with the Deanery and Diocese, and takes responsibility for the setting of vision and strategy, approving the overall budget, approving policies to guide the work of the Parish, all legal matters and the monitoring of risk. It operates by delegating responsibility for care of the fabric of Parish facilities to the four District Church Councils, who in return, report their business to the PCC. They also seek PCC approval for faculties and any call on trust funds.

At its meeting on 30th November 2019 the PCC approved a vision and 5-year strategy for advancing that vision. This document sets out clear aims and objectives for the five years up to 2025 and introduces a reporting structure so that progress against the vision can be identified and reported on against a set of pre-defined measures of progress.

The PCC Treasurer liaises with the DCC Finance Officers to ensure that all financial liabilities can be met in a timely fashion and that the complex requirements of the various Charities Acts are fully complied with.

The PCC has had four regular meetings this year with an average attendance of 15 members.

The Electoral Roll

Counting the Electoral Roll and Average Sunday Attendance assesses the size of the church community. A roll has been revised under the Church Representation Rules.

Electoral Roll:	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>
St Mary	127	127	127	89	114	119	134	136	130	131	127
St Nicholas	55	70	75	75	78	73	75	78	69	71	66
St James	34	34	34	33	35	35	37	39	30	26	26
St Peter	31	30	30	23	23	23	24	24	20	21	21
Total Parish Roll	247	261	266	220	250	250	270	277	249	249	240

Each Church submits figures to the Diocese, which show Average Sunday Attendance (over and under 16 years of

age), as well as their Electoral Roll figure. The Electoral Roll is used to calculate the number of Deanery Synod Representatives to be elected from the parish.

Average Weekly Attendance

Owing to the closure of churches for much of 2020 due to the Covid pandemic the Average Weekly Attendance figures are not comparable with previous years. Much of the worship was transferred online and between March 23rd and by the end of the year the Parish had broadcast 417 services online including a service each Sunday, morning prayer on all other days, services for the Mother's Union and covering youth and children's work. During October the average online weekly attendance was 578 people, but some of those engaged from beyond the borders of the parish.

On every Sunday when we were legally allowed to be open we ran a minimum of three services across the Parish but this still meant that the total number of services held during the year dropped from 579 to 252. The average weekly attendance in person also dropped significantly to 139 people, which compares with 580 people in 2019. Under 16 attendance in person also halved to 24.

Occasional Offices

The Occasional Offices were also significantly affected by the Covid pandemic with the majority of weddings and baptisms being postponed.

Year	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>
Baptisms	77	36	48	74	55	55	70	50	58	64	12
Weddings.....	30	21	12	19	23	19	19	16	10	9	2
Funerals in church.....	23	26	19	31	14	23	22	22	28	16	16
Funerals at Crem.	38	27	36	32	46	32	22	25	24	16	20

Baptism Preparation takes place on a monthly basis. The ordained ministers meet with parents and godparents to help them understand the meaning and commitment they are about to take through an exploration of the Baptism liturgy.

Marriage Preparation documentation is completed primarily by the Parish Administrator, Mrs Pamela Brown. We also run a Marriage Preparation Day in March in which couples are invited to attend and this is then followed on by clergy visiting couples in preparing for their marriage service.

Funerals are generally booked through the Parish Office and then shared across the parish by the clergy and LLMs.

St. Mary's CEVA Primary School

Members of the clergy and lay ministers maintain strong links with local schools and take many assemblies (collective worship) throughout the year.

St Mary's (Church Aided) Primary School continues to be supported by eight foundation and parent governors who have been nominated by the PCC and elected to serve by the Diocesan Board of Education.

Revd. Ian Wallace	-	Foundation	(ex-officio)	
Mrs Ann Crabbe	-	Vice Chair Foundation	(PCC)	
Mr Charles de Nobriga	-	Chair Foundation	(PCC)	
Mrs Jenny Powell	-	Foundation	(PCC)	
Mrs Emma Gay	-	Foundation	(PCC)	
Mrs Sarah Marshall	-	Foundation	(PCC)	
Dr Donna Harris	-	Foundation	(PCC)	(from Sept 2020)
Revd Joanne Hodge	-	Foundation	(PCC)	(from Sept 2020)
Mrs Sam Holman	-	Parent	(elected by parents)	
Mrs Kelly Reed	-	Parent	(elected by parents)	
Mrs Rachel Hill	-	Staff	(elected by staff)	
Mr Andrew Spens	-	Executive Head Teacher		
Mrs Bethan Scriven	-	Headteacher		
Vacancy	-	LEA Governor		
Mrs Gemma Wilburn	-	Clerk		

The Rector's Summary of 2020

2020 has been a most unusual and challenging year. We began with the launch of a new five-year vision through which we aim to make Jesus more visible in our community so that he can draw people to himself. Our hope is that as we live out our calling to be the human presence of Jesus and make visible his total response to God's love and truth, others will see Jesus in the Christ-likeness of other human beings and be transformed.

The five-year vision expresses the hope that by focusing on the four priorities of prayerfulness, growth, openness and caring we will become a vibrant growing community, focused on following Jesus and rooted in prayer, that is open to and caring of all people. Little did we know that within 10 weeks of launching the vision our resolve would be so strenuously tested by a global pandemic that resulted in successive lockdowns.

Without any doubt the Covid pandemic has been the dominant characteristic of the year, closing all churches for a significant part of the year. When the first lockdown was announced we held onto the hope that we might be able to reopen in time to celebrate Easter. More than 15 weeks after Easter we were still closed and that fact alone struck at the core nature of the church as a community of people who gather to worship God and then go out into the world as salt and light to help people see and understand the good news of Jesus. None of that was possible. The closure of our churches by Government decree threatened that very collective nature of the church.

However, 2020 was far from an 'empty' year thanks to the hard-work and dedication of many people, not least our rapidly formed Tech Team and the Ministry Team to whom I am incredibly grateful. As a Parish we quickly discovered Zoom and our Lent Course on caring for God's earth was able to continue with Zoom discussion groups. We also managed to launch an online service on the first Sunday of lockdown and have not missed a Sunday since. The Tech Team have also helped us improve the quality of our online worship so that those watching are drawn into participating in worship from their homes rather than simply being passive onlookers.

Between the start of lockdown on 23rd March and the end of the year we broadcast a total of 417 online services. The most successful of these has been Morning Prayer which happens at 7.30am each morning except Sundays with viewing figures consistently at 80+ each day (between 10 and 15 people viewed live and the remainder were 'catch-up' viewings). 630 Praise was also relaunched online in mid-April and other services have included Mothers' Union services, a special Remembrance Day service and online Carol Services. At the 'October count' an average of 578 people participated in some form of online service from Yate Parish each week. In addition to these services we ran an online Alpha Course in the early summer, Rooted and Rooted Plus continued online and several of the small groups continued to meet via Zoom.

As well as the online presence members of the Parish also endeavoured to maintain a physical presence in the community. Many church members volunteered to be street wardens as part of a scheme run jointly with Yate Town Council and the Yate & Sodbury Neighbourhood Project to obtain shopping and vital supplies for those who were shielding as a result of the pandemic. Lunch at One continued to deliver lunches to people's homes and through the autumn we were able to provide a community focus with the trail of Remembrance Stones (over 400 were painted and contributed by members of the community) and with the Labyrinth of Lights.

The Christmas Tree Festival continued with a trail of trees around the area with over 50 contributors decorating trees for people to visit during their daily exercise. However, the highlight came with the Drive-In Carol services that we organised in the Riverside Car Park in conjunction with Yate Town Council. The idea only became a possibility at very short notice, but nonetheless all tickets sold out in very quick time and we hosted 182 cars (many with five or six occupants) for an evening of carols.

There have been many other initiatives that are mentioned later in this report, and I believe that it is to the credit of the Parish that it maintained at least 3 Sunday 'in-person' services alongside the online offerings on every Sunday on which the church was legally permitted to be open. This only happened as a result of the dedication and hard work of our Wardens and their supporting team who have carried out deep-cleans of the premises, developed detailed risk-assessments, ensured proper social-distancing and maintained records for the track & trace service. Everyone who has attended has remained safe and Covid-free.

Ian Wallace

Activities and Impact

Worship & Prayer

Aim: To become, by 2025, a vibrant growing community focused on following Jesus and rooted in prayer that is open to and caring of all people.

The covid-19 pandemic provided some challenges but also some opportunities and pleasant surprises for our prayer and worship. The four worshipping centres were closed from March to June but, whenever the government and Diocese permitted, the churches were kept open, albeit for just one act of worship per church per Sunday i.e., from 4th July to the end of the year.

Our online worshipping presence has been significantly increased and made possible by Hywel and his impressive IT team, and the hard work of the ministry team and other members of the parish. In the beginning, worship was recorded because internet capacity was too unreliable for livestreaming. Moreover, the online church streaming platform has helped us avoid the difficulties other churches have had on a Sunday morning with, for example, Zoom. Towards the end of the year livestreaming became possible on a Sunday morning first at St Mary and then alternating with St Nicholas and now with St James. This has been a welcome development. However, it has moved the preparation and delivery of worship into the hands of the ministry team proving both an added burden to the team but also disempowering the laity. One notable exception has been 630 praise, ably led and developed by Justin and Charlie Blackett.

A wonderful surprise and success have been the 7.30 am livestreamed morning prayer Monday to Saturday through Facebook. This has reached a wider audience than MP in our church centres, and enabled members of the parish not only to pray but also to hear a reassuringly friendly and familiar voice. In the mission area, a phone-in reflection every Wednesday afternoon has also been well received.

In 2021, we will have to make important but challenging decisions on what virtual worship and prayer we should keep, and what we should let go of to be both sustainable and also make the most of the opportunities presented by the internet.

Iain Macfarlane

Missional Church

Aim: To become, by 2025, a vibrant growing community, focused on following Jesus and rooted in prayer, that is open to and caring of all people.

- 2020 began with a focus on the book 'Saying Yes to God'. We began a new group at St James meeting for breakfast before the Wednesday coffee morning. Several other home groups looked at similar material. Then in Mid – March 2020 Covid hit.
- In response to Covid four of the existing home groups and missional communities migrated online via zoom. Two other groups could not due to the technical barriers of the group members. Zoom has proven to be a good platform for home groups, with attendance being higher and more consistent in the new format.
- The Pilgrim group undertook their reflective walks between July – October. Stopping only in response to the national lockdown. Moving to a daytime walk improved attendance.
- In September the pilgrim group undertook a coffee morning in the Ladden Garden estate and followed up with a remembrance trail and a Christmas trail. They are currently working with the LGV action group to put on an Easter egg hunt.
- In the late spring we trailed online Alpha via zoom, we had 7 participants one of which has attended the Thursday home group.
- Work begun on establishing a Behavioural Change survey to use method employed by the NHS to encourage deeper discipleship in 2020. This was shelved due to Covid 19 but is to be re-launched in April 2021.
- In the spring we trailed a webinar format focused on Climate Change, this was followed up during the summer where we produced four webinars focused on the meaning of the Eucharist.
- During Advent we produced four podcasts focused on Christmas Carols as part of our Online Carol service.
- 2020 was a strange year where we were forced to shelve all our original plans, we have learned a great deal during the time and shown that discipleship can continue and thrive online even in national lockdown.

Hywel Snook

Pastoral Care & Fellowship

Aim: To become, by 2025, a vibrant growing community, focused on following Jesus and rooted in prayer, that is open to and caring of all people.

2020 started out well. In February team of sign-posters (people known as those through whom pastoral cares and concerns can be passed) was established. Then Covid struck, and the first of three National Lockdowns began on 23rd March.

The compilation of a Pastoral Directory had not been completed but was very quickly put together with the considerable help of the Parish Administrator. What we developed enabled Ministry Team members and some small group leaders to be allocated to each member on that list, and a telephone ministry began. The concern was that each person on the directory would be contacted on a regular basis, and this has continued for the rest of the year.

It became clear that many in this directory had no access to the online material that was being produced. To address this, and in addition to the phone ministry, several mailings were sent out with, for instance, pastoral letters, the Parish Newsletter, ideas for prayer walks, how to look after one's emotional health, as well as worship resources and a CD of the Christmas Carol Service.

Craft Group *[written by Jo Horler]*

For the first couple of months in 2020 the craft group continued to enjoy high numbers. We were planning to hold a springtime buffet in the church but our plans are now on hold until we meet again. During the lockdown the leaders have kept in touch with as many members as possible and it is clear that everyone is keen to meet again as soon as we are allowed. We now have a WhatsApp group set up and have twenty participants. It is difficult for some members to use this form of communication, so we still use the telephone for others.

We all feel very deeply, the loss of one of our founder members, Sue Wells. She was a very talented crafter and a very caring and loving person. We will miss her greatly but intend to follow her example on how to care for all our group members.

Shalom Group

The group, which had reconvened, had a brief reunion after the summer, but has not met in person since the November 2020 lockdown.

Mothers' Union *[written by Jacky Fredrickson]*

2020 started much as always, with Mothers' Union meeting for AGM in January, enjoying a February Lunch out and continuing to support families through Praise and Play, Sunburst and Baptism Preparation sessions. Providing refreshment and a welcome to visitors at Ashfield Prison and welcoming in Bristol Cathedral. In March we held our annual 'Make a Mother's Day' Fund raising event and were delighted to enrol five new members to our Branch.

Since March 23rd 2020 we have continued having monthly online acts of worship. As a Committee we endeavour to maintain phone and email contact with all our members, who regularly receive letters, prayer cards etc. We support the newly formed Yate and Chipping Sodbury Toy and Activity bank, providing crochet items, particularly rainbows and Christmas trees, and craft kits. We have made donations towards Mothers' Union projects and St Mary's Church.

In August we enjoyed a socially distanced outdoor meeting and picnic to celebrate the anniversary of MU Founder Mary Sumner, and in September participated in the MU 'Wave of Prayer'. In November we engaged in sixteen days of Activism against gender-based violence.

Lunch at One *[written by Lyn Bulley]*

2020 was a very strange year for us all and Lunch at One became another casualty of the pandemic. The year started with Lunch at One in January, February and March as usual being organised by Peter Wells. Peter then handed on the leadership to Lyn Bulley shortly before the first lockdown.

When all gatherings had to be stopped Gerry Willis kindly volunteered to run Lunch at One from her kitchen as Meals on Wheels with a band of helpers to prepare and deliver the meals. This worked very well, and the recipients were very grateful. Meals ran in this way for four months from April to July. After our usual break for August, it was decided that Covid regulations meant that we had to suspend Lunch at One for the time-being.

Friendship Group and Lunch Club at St Nicholas

This was being well-attended until March 2020. The Friendship Group continued to meet as two groups in the church. A chest freezer was installed for the Lunch Club, meaning that soup could be stored and defrosted to order.

School Chaplaincy

Reverends Gail Thomas, Iain Macfarlane and Joanne Hodge continued to offer a listening service to St Mary's School.

Since March 2020 the service has been offered by phone rather than in person, and Reverends Ian Wallace and Hywel Snook joined the team.

As well as temporarily halting many pastoral activities, the pandemic has given rise to new links between the Parish, Yate Town Council and other local bodies being forged, leading to a Listening Ear Service being set up, and a team of DBS checked volunteers across Yate to look after those who were isolating during the lockdowns.

In the summer of 2020 we convened a meeting of local GPs, teachers, mental health workers, charities and young people was to try to understand the impact that Covid would have on mental wellbeing over the coming years. This has already led to the support of a number of people who are on long waiting lists for professional help.

Joanne Hodge

Youth, Children & Young Families

Aim: To become, by 2025, a vibrant growing community focused on following Jesus and rooted in prayer that is open to and caring of all people.

2020 was a year when we could have sat back and done very little, but despite the pandemic and some disappointments, we have managed to achieve some of our objectives.

OBJECTIVE 1:

To have thriving youth work which equips the young people to be confident in their faith and sharing with others.

In January 2020 we took a group of young people from Yate and Fromeside to Legge House. This was a weekend of fun, worship and social action and one of building relationships and we hoped to build on this in throughout the year.

During the year Rooted and Rooted + met weekly via Zoom until the summer holidays when we reverted to our regular pattern of twice a month. These meetings were a mixture of Bible Study, Prayer, Pastoral Support and games. Members of the Fromeside youth group joined us for our Advent Study Group and Escape Rooms and we are hoping they will join us for our Lent Study.

We took part in the Messy Church discipleship programme which targets teenagers. This began in September 2019 and many of our young people took part.

When we have been able to be in church, some of our young people have taken part in leading the family services at St Mary's.

OBJECTIVE 2:

To care for our families and young people by the creation of an increased support network for families.

We offered one parenting course in 2020.

We are now offering a twice monthly family service at St Mary's and the congregations are beginning to get to know each other.

We have kept in contact by telephone and Zoom with the families we know from Praise and Play, Little Sparks and Sunburst, and have supported two families who have had particular needs.

Gail Thomas

Governance, Administration, Finance, Communication & Facilities (GAFCaF)

Aim: to support ministry within the Parish by ensuring

- **that we invest sufficiently in the smooth running of the administrative functions underpinning Parish work**
- **that our communication reflects a dynamic community reaching out to others and is clear, relevant and timely**
- **that our buildings are appropriately maintained and developed as attractive, welcoming places.**

- The PCC launched a new 5-year vision at the end of January with the strapline “Making Jesus Visible”. Although the Covid pandemic has interrupted the roll out of the new vision it is clear that the strapline already has significant traction across the Parish.
- The PCC continued to meet throughout the lockdowns by using Zoom and has otherwise conducted its business in the usual way.
- The Parish Administration has strengthened significantly this year as a result of the appointment of Pam Brown to the role of Administrator. She has improved information flows around the Parish and provided a vital link with the editors of the monthly magazine. Despite the difficult circumstances created by the Covid pandemic Pam has continued to maintain the Parish Office as a communications hub for all enquiries.
- We have enhanced our printing capability by leasing a new copying machine with the capability to collate and staple booklets and the ability to print posters on A3 paper.
- As a result of the closure of churches through successive lockdowns we have purchased equipment to enable us to live-stream services from any of the four churches within the Parish. Our website has also undergone significant development and now acts as the access point for a large amount of online video material. Between the announcing of the first lockdown and the end of the year the Parish conducted 415 services online and attracted consistent levels of viewing. Most appear to be from within the Parish although there have been some viewings from across the world.
- A separate spreadsheet was developed to monitor online church ‘attendance’, and this information has complimented the weekly attendance data that was already being collated and analysed for the PCC.
- Discussions were held with the Diocese of Bristol Board of Finance (DBF) about retaining Tudor Cottage for Parish use. In November we were informed that the DBF was willing to transfer the property to the Parish and that transfer will take place in 2021, enabling the Parish to develop its office facilities and meeting rooms.
- At the end of October, we learned that Historic England had awarded a significant grant to the Parish to enable the repair of part of the roof at St. Mary’s Church. All the preliminaries were completed before Christmas and work begins in January 2021. We continue to work with the Parish architect to raise funds for the remaining phases of the project, to develop the facilities at St. Nicholas Church in Abbotswood and to install toilets at St. James.

Ian Wallace

Mission Area

The Yate & Fromeside Mission Area is a joint missional venture with Fromeside Benefice aimed at bringing new growth and energy to both benefices. It was begun in 2017 at the instigation of Bristol Diocese as part of the Church of England’s Strategic Development Programme. The Mission Area was formally launched with a Covenant Service in January 2018 and by June of that year the two benefices had developed a joint plan for the first 18 months which ran to December 2019.

When the Covid pandemic hit in March 2020 many of the planned events and activities had to be cancelled. The new Mission Area plan was just about to be presented to PCCs across the Mission Area, but it was quickly clear that it had been made hopelessly out of date by the pandemic and needed revision. Bristol Diocese agreed to allow additional time for this revision and a new plan, which took account of the changed circumstances, was presented and approved later in the year. While much of the original plan has been put on hold, there has also been a lot of innovation and some new initiatives have been launched:

- A lot of thinking has been done together as to how we can address the issues of mental wellbeing that have escalated as a result of the pandemic. Both benefices have launched a listening service and a significant number of people are being supported through bereavement and other mental health challenges by regular listening support.

- This well-being support has also been extended into schools. We have recently signed a partnership agreement with the charity *Transforming Lives for Good* that will train five coaches to provide one-to-one support for struggling children in St. Mary's School
- The combined work among young people has gone from strength to strength with Rooted and Rooted + happening every week through Lent as the youngsters work through some Bible Study materials together. The number of young people participating through Zoom from both benefices has grown.
- We came very close to appointing a Youth & Children's Minister for the Mission Area last August. Sadly, the chosen candidates accepted a role with another church. However, we are now recruiting again with interviews taking place shortly after Easter.
- A new telephone prayer-line was launched early in the new Year and is proving to be both popular and helpful for those people who have discovered it. In addition, the lockdown has spawned an increasing number of WhatsApp prayer groups.
- There has also been a significant amount of online activity from both benefices including an online Alpha Course, online school assemblies and many online services and our communication through both websites has been developed with a joint development of the 'Explore our Faith' section which is common to the websites of both benefices.

We have also taken the opportunity to restructure the way we share experiences and learning and co-ordinate our work, resulting in a better forum for the exchange of information. As we look towards the future, we are looking to integrate the Parish of Coalpit Heath into the Mission Area and discussions have already begun with their PCC to make this possible.

Ian Wallace

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is Everyone's Business; See Something, Do Something

Safeguarding should underpin all we do in the Parish and is now embedded in church law, with leaders and volunteers being required to give it due regard.

Over the past 6 months I have been working to ensure that all volunteers across the 4 churches have completed the required online safeguarding training. At the time of writing almost all volunteers have completed the training and for those for whom online training is not appropriate I will arrange face-to-face training sessions as soon as permitted.

As we have entered an era of live-streamed services and conducting meetings via online conferencing platforms, I have distributed guidance from the charity thirtyone:eight on using digital technologies safely. I have followed this up through discussions with church and activity leaders about good practice and any issues that have arisen. I have developed and distributed a Live Streaming-Photography-Video Recording Consent Form.

I operate an 'open door' approach and have supported members of the ministry team and parishioners with safeguarding concerns, liaising with professionals as needed. At the beginning of the first lockdown, I advised on safeguarding governance for the YSNS 'Listening Service'. I work closely with the diocesan safeguarding team and have attended online meetings of its PSO Forum. I continue to be a lay member of the Diocesan Risk Management Group which helps keep me up to date with safeguarding issues.

I have worked closely with safeguarding leads in other churches within the area and hope this year to start a forum to enable us to meet to provide support and share good practice.

The Safeguarding Policy and Procedures have been rewritten to reflect changes in legislation and national church policies and published on the Parish website. To meet national guidance that it needs to be accessible to all, when churches are reopened it will be stored visibly in all 4 churches, be available in the church office, and be sent to volunteers.

I am grateful for the work Richard Lewis undertook before he stood down as Church Safeguarding Officer for St James' at the end of 2020. I am looking to revitalise this role across all 4 churches and am currently writing a role profile and job description. If you are interested, please contact me. Applicants will be recruited under safer recruitment policies.

As we begin to prepare to open our churches fully and to start face-to-face activities, I am starting to contact all activity leaders to ensure that all volunteers have completed their safeguarding training and have a DBS in place. I will be working with leaders to ensure risk assessments are in place underpinned by diocesan and national church guidelines as well as Covid-19 regulations. As well, I will be working with leaders to look at the role profiles for all volunteers within

their teams. I will also look to ensure that any volunteers recruited during lockdown have had the required governance in place.

In the coming year I will look to develop the work already started. "We cannot place a high enough importance on safeguarding issues. It is vital that lessons are learnt throughout the whole of the Church of England. Every day the vulnerable come to us for shelter, for support and for comfort. Their trust cannot be taken for granted." *Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury*

Beverley Hodgson

Health and Safety Report

The plans made during 2019 for completion during 2020 were all put on hold because of the Covid Pandemic and will have to be addressed during 2021 once the government restrictions have been relaxed.

2020 has again been a fairly quiet year on the accident front, with no incidents being recorded, this is probably a result of the Covid pandemic which stopped all Church events.

The Covid pandemic, however, highlighted a couple of areas that would need to be addressed if there was ever a need to close the Churches in the future: -

1. How we secure the premises safely, ensuring that the buildings are not at risk from electrical faults causing fires.
2. Ensuring that the Bells are rung down.

The education of members of the congregation and users of our premises to ensure that everyone, including themselves are kept safe by following the working practices that have been developed and implemented across the parish has been paused and will restart after lockdown.

The information provided by the Church insurance company has continued and will be discussed with the Churches Health and Safety Reps, once we are able to physically get together.

The planned review and improvements to the Risk Assessment process and ensure that any assessment is reviewed by the Parish H&S officer and a copy kept by the Parish Office has not been completed and will have to be completed in 2021.

The Covid pandemic has provided many opportunities to think about the Church activities and the way we do things, according to experts it will be many years before we will be doing things without some form of controls, such as social distancing and wearing of face-coverings.

Gus Smith, Parish Health & Safety Officer

Treasurer's Report

The majority of the year was impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic which meant that churches were either closed or operating with restricted congregations in the physical buildings, partly offset by increased online services.

We were very fortunate and grateful for the fact that most of our donors maintained their planned giving levels, but a reduced rental income from groups who used church buildings meant that income was reduced overall.

This situation was managed from a financial perspective by reducing expenses where possible and working closely with the Diocese to reduce our Diocesan Parish Share contributions to a level that enabled our reserves to be managed. This meant that our Parish Share was lower than planned and remains under review for 2021 with the aim being to increase contributions as income improves.

Overall, our income was down £21,694 versus 2019 and expenses down £15,632 versus 2019. Our investments grew, but by a smaller amount than 2019, meaning our overall funds at the end of the year were £11,175 higher than the same point in 2019.

2021 will involve significant spend on roof repairs at St Mary's Church and the Trustees feel that appropriate funding arrangements have been put in place to manage this.

Covid-19 Statement

The accounts have been prepared on the assumption that the charity is able to continue as a going concern. The COVID-19 pandemic is continuing and will also impact 2021's income. The Trustees have considered the

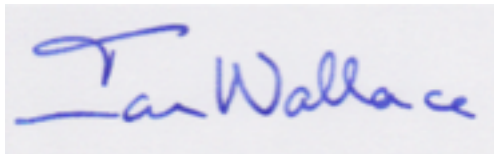
impact on this issue and are working with the Diocese to ensure Parish Share contribution levels strike a balance between managing our own reserves and making a meaningful contribution to the Diocese bearing in mind the level of clergy the Diocese provide for us. The trustees consider that the charity has sufficient cash reserves to continue as a going concern for a period of at least 12 months from the date on which these financial statements are approved.

Stephen Lord

Conclusion

The Annual Report is a composite document prepared by Officers and members of the PCC, in line with the terms of the Charities Act 1993 and the Charities Act 2011. We hope this report gives a clear picture of the church and the way in which the PCC have administered the task placed on them as trustees in the Parish of Yate.

On behalf of the PCC, The Revd. Ian Wallace (Team Rector).

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ian Wallace". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'I'.

29th April 2021

Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of the Parish of Yate

This report on the financial statements of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2020, which are set out on pages 1 to 9 in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 (the Regulations) and s.43 of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act).

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements; you consider that the audit requirement of the Regulations and section 43(2) of the Act does not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those financial statements in accordance with the terms of the Regulations.

Basis of this report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 43(7)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church guidance, 2006 edition. That examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also included considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent Examiners Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention, which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act; or
- to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records and comply with the Regulations have not been met; or

to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts be reached.

[Signed]

 13/3-2021.

[Name and Address of independent examiner]

Jon Aries
Vine Cottage
Wootten Road
Iron Acton
Bristol
BS37 9IJZ

**The Parish of Yate PCC
Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 31 December 2020**



The Parish of Yate PCC
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ending 31 December 2020

1 Accounting Policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the Charities SORP 2005.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the valuation of assets, which are shown at market value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

Funds

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

Restricted funds represent (a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in terms of the trust or bequest and (b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of the year must be carried forward as a balance on that fund. The PCC does not invest separately for each fund. Where there is no separate investment, interest will in future be apportioned to individual funds on an average balance basis.

Unrestricted funds are general funds that can be used for PCC ordinary purposes.

Incoming Resources

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is legally entitled to the amounts due. Dividends are accounted for when receivable, interest accrued. All other income is recognised when receivable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross. Amounts received specifically for mission are dealt with as restricted funds.

Resources Expended

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The diocesan parish share is accounted for when due. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

Activities Directly Relating To The Work Of The Church

The diocesan parish share is accounted for when due. Any parish share unpaid at 31 December is provided for in these financial statements as an operational (though not a legal) liability and is shown as a creditor in the balance sheet.

Staff Costs

A small immaterial portion of the expenses paid to the clergy may have related to their services as members (including the chair) of the PCC. Payments of £1,471 during the year were paid to PCC members or their family members for services outside the scope of their PCC duties.

Fixed Assets

Consecrated property and moveable church furnishings

Consecrated and beneficed property is not included in the financial statements in accordance with s.96 (2) (a) of the Charities Act 1993.

Moveable church furnishings held by the vicar and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC, and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the church's inventory, which can be inspected (at a reasonable time). For inalienable property acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the accounts. Items acquired since 1 January 2000 with individual value below £1000 are written off.

Investments

Investments are valued at market value at 31 December.

Current Assets

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December in respect of fees, rents and other income are shown as debtors less provision for amounts that may prove uncollectable.


The Parish of Yate PCC
Statement of Financial Activities
For The Year to 31st December 2020


Incoming Resources	Note	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total Funds	
		Funds £	Funds £	Funds £	2020 £	2019 £
Incoming resources from generated funds	2					
Voluntary income from donors	2a	98,812	0	0	98,812	102,197
Voluntary income - other	2b	20,500	0	0	20,500	16,677
Incoming resources from charitable activities						
Lettings and fees	2c	36,605	125	0	36,730	54,417
Other	2d	17,191	0	0	17,191	17,900
Investment income	2e	3,115	3,894	0	7,009	7,963
Other incoming resources	2f	0	0	0	0	2,783
Total Incoming Resources		176,224	4,019	0	180,243	201,937
Resources Expended						
Cost of generating funds	3					
Costs of generating voluntary income	3a	122,284	5,727	0	128,011	152,790
Governance costs	3b	45,480	0	0	45,480	36,310
Costs of Generating Funds	3c	1,753	0	0	1,753	5,376
Charitable activities	3d	2,310	0	0	2,310	3,126
Movement in Debtors	5	4,416	0	0	4,416	0
Total Resources Expended		176,243	5,727	0	181,970	197,602
Net Incoming (Outgoing) Resources		(19)	(1,708)	0	(1,727)	4,335
Transfers		(670)	0	0	(670)	0
Gains and Losses on Investments		5,399		8,173	13,572	31,128
Net Movement in Funds		4,710	(1,708)	8,173	11,175	35,463
Reconciliation of Funds						
Balances B/F @ Start Of Year		177,682	74,582	118,861	371,125	335,662
Balances C/F @ End Of Year		182,392	72,874	127,034	382,300	371,125

The Parish of Yate PCC
Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2020

	Note	2020	2019
		£	£
Fixed Assets			
Tangible Fixed Assets	4a	0	0
Investment Assets	4b	210,937	197,364
Current Assets			
Debtors	5	2,585	7,000
Cash at bank and in hand	6	168,778	166,761
Total		171,363	173,761
 Liabilities - Amounts falling due within one year		 0	 0
Net Current Assets		171,363	173,761
 Liabilities - Amounts falling due more than one year		 0	 0
Net Assets		382,300	371,125
 Funds			
Unrestricted	8	186,639	177,682
Restricted	8	68,627	74,582
Endowment	8	127,034	118,861
		382,300	371,125

Approved on 22nd March 2021

Rev. Ian Wallace (Chair) 

Stephen Lord (PCC Treasurer) 

The notes form part of these accounts

Date 22nd March 2021

The Parish of Yate PCC
Fund Analysis
For The Year to 31st December 2020

	Opening Balances £	Movement In Debtors	Income £	Payments £	Transfers In £	Transfers Out £	Capital Revaluation £	Closing Balances £
General								
Printer	139		8	0				147
Discretionary Capital	64,757						4,453	69,210
Discretionary Revenue	4,618		2,399	(5,349)				1,668
Parish - General	3,331		28,392	(35,311)	27,897			24,310
St James General	4,313	(600)	17,728	(15,546)	4,557	(4,549)		5,904
St Mary's General	6,475	(29)	61,672	(56,763)	8,213	(15,812)		3,756
St Nicholas General	9,173	(3,899)	48,209	(41,602)		(8,370)		3,511
St Peter's General	1,664	112	6,699	(6,332)	1,500	(1,476)		2,167
St Nicholas Y Centre for PCC	1,343		10,440	(10,926)				857
St Mary's EB Memorial	53,012		205	0	1,330	(8,213)		46,334
St Peters CBF General	15,111		473			(1,500)		14,084
St Peter's Investment CBF	13,746						946	14,692
General Funds	177,682	(4,416)	176,224	(171,827)	43,497	(39,920)	5,399	186,639
Specific								
St. Mary's Newman Income	7,148		3,734	(5,727)				5,155
St. James Fabric	33,730		142	0	310	(4,557)		29,625
St. Nicholas Fabric	19,206		82					19,288
St Nicholas Roof	14,498		62					14,560
Specific Funds	74,582	0	4,019	(5,727)	310	(4,557)	0	68,627
Endowment								
St. Mary's Newman Trust Capital	118,861						8,173	127,034
Endowment Funds	118,861	0	0	0	0	0	8,173	127,034
Total Funds	371,125	(4,416)	180,243	(177,554)	43,807	(44,477)	13,572	382,300

The Parish of Yate PCC
Notes To The Financial Statements
For The Year to 31st December 2020

2	Incoming Resources	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds 2020 £	2019 £
2a	Voluntary income from donors					
	Planned Giving	69,829			69,829	70,105
	Income Tax Recoverable	22,723			22,723	19,369
	Collections (Open plate)	6,261			6,261	12,723
		98,812	0	0	98,812	102,197
2b	Voluntary income - other					
	Grants	20,500			20,500	11,300
	Donations, Appeals, etc.	0			0	5,377
		20,500	0	0	20,500	16,677
2c	Lettings and Fees					
	Church hall lettings	25,923			25,923	43,290
	Fees	10,682	125		10,807	11,127
		36,605	125	0	36,730	54,417
2d	Other income					
	Funds generated	17,183			17,183	17,900
	Copier	8			8	0
		17,191	0	0	17,191	17,900
2e	Investment Income					
	Interest/Dividends	3,115	3,894		7,009	7,963
		3,115	3,894	0	7,009	7,963
2f	Other incoming resources					
	Miscellaneous	0			0	783
	Insurance claim	0			0	0
	Legacy	0			0	2,000
		0	0	0	0	2,783
	Total Incoming Resources	176,224	4,019	0	180,243	201,937

The Parish of Yate PCC
Notes To The Financial Statements
For The Year to 31st December 2020

3.	Resources Expended	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds 2020 £	2019 £
3a	Costs of Generating Voluntary Income					
	Activities directly relating to the church					
	Ministry Diocesan Share	57,242			57,242	81,599
	Ministry Clergy Expenses	5,056			5,056	5,532
	Church Running Expenses	0			0	0
	Utilities	11,534			11,534	9,569
	Insurance	8,903			8,903	8,755
	Church Maintenance	6,189			6,189	7,108
	Equipment Repairs	3,369			3,369	2,115
	Other Projects	5,095			5,095	989
	Roof Project	9,543			9,543	11,149
	Church Cleaning	1,562			1,562	1,871
	Flower Decoration	0			0	50
	Altar requisites	901			901	755
	Vision	1,965			1,965	2,280
	Care of Church Grounds		5,727		5,727	6,941
	Youth & Community Centres Running Costs					
	Utilities	2,227			2,227	2,360
	Insurance	787			787	778
	Repairs	540			540	1,463
	Staff Costs	5,720			5,720	7,708
	Equipment	0			0	58
	Admin	0			0	0
	Caretaking	1,651			1,651	1,710
	Building Refurbishment	0			0	0
	Stationery etc.	0			0	0
	Total Costs of Generating Voluntary Income	122,284	5,727	0	128,011	152,790
3.	Resources Expended	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds 2020 £	2019 £
3b	Governance Costs					
	Church Management & Administration					
	Staff - Administration	25,892			25,892	13,430
	Other Staff Costs	2,781			2,781	18,397
	Sundry Expenses				0	0
	Administration	5,799			5,799	4,375
	Miscellaneous	10,900			10,900	0
	Bank Charges	108			108	108
		45,480	0	0	45,480	36,310
3c	Cost of generating funds					
	Fund Raising	1,753			1,753	5,296
	Copier	0			0	80
		1,753	0	0	1,753	5,376

The Parish of Yate PCC
Notes To The Financial Statements
For The Year to 31st December 2020

3	Resources Expended	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds 2020 £	2019 £
3d	Charitable Activities					
	Charitable Giving	2,310			2,310	3,126
	Analysed as:					
	Regenerate	1,200				
	St Peters Hospice	947				
	British Legion	88				
	Yate Food Bank	75				
	Total	2,310				
		Shares			2020 £	2019 £
4a	Fixed Assets for use by PCC				0	0
4b	Investments					
	Market Value at start of year	Discretionary Fund			64,758	54,553
	Market Value at start of year	Newman Trust			118,861	100,131
	Market Value at start of year	St Peters CBF			13,746	11,552
	Gain on revaluation	Discretionary Fund			4,453	10,204
	Gain on revaluation	Newman Trust			8,173	18,730
	Gain on revaluation	St Peters CBF			946	2,194
	Valuation at end of year				210,937	197,364
	Holdings as at end of year (Number of units)					
	Dis. Fund				3,378	3,378
	New Trust				6,201	6,201
	St Peters				717	717
					10,296	10,296
5	Debtors (Unrestricted Funds)					
	Tax Claim				2,585	7,000
					2,585	7,000
6	Cash Balances					
	Parish Lloyds Account				11,888	16,202
	Parish Lloyds Account				33,000	15,000
	St. James CBF				29,625	33,731
	St. Mary's CBF				46,334	53,012
	St. Nicholas CBF				19,288	19,206
	St. Peter's CBF				14,084	15,111
	St. Nicholas CBF Roof				14,560	14,499
					168,778	166,761

