

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GREAT FARINGDON

England & Wales · Charity number 1134401

Details

Other names	THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, FARINGDON, ALL SAINTS' FARINGDON PCC
Status	Registered
Legal form	Previously excepted
Registered	2010-02-19
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	All Saints Church Church Street Faringdon Oxfordshire SN7 8AD
Phone	01367244901
Email	admin@allsaintsfaringdon.org.uk
Website	www.allsaintsfaringdon.org

Activities

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

Activities: Great Faringdon PCC is responsible, in co-operation with the Vicar, for promoting the whole mission of the Church - pastoral, evangelistic, ecumenical and social - within the ecclesiastical parish, and for maintaining the fabric of All Saints' Church, Faringdon and St Mary's Church, Little Coxwell as well as Coach Lane Cemetery and St Mary's Churchyard.

Classification

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

Geography

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

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£222,281	£218,657	-	-
2024-12-31	£188,361	£163,159	-	-
2023-12-31	£175,137	£155,144	-	-
2022-12-31	£155,932	£160,687	-	-
2021-12-31	£144,986	£128,038	-	-
2020-12-31	£145,721	£179,375	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Maria Jukes	Chair	2023-05-23
Aimee Lee Husebo		2026-05-10
Alice Elisabeth Ruth Voaden		2026-05-10
Anne K Brooke		2025-05-18
Christopher James Speller		2024-04-28
Christopher Martin Horley		2022-05-01
Christopher Raybone		2026-05-10
Douglas John Lines		2025-05-18
Dr DAVID WILSON		
Dr Edward William Brooke		2026-05-10
Dr Jeremy Mark Ritchie		2026-05-10
JOHN SEEDELL		
Jim McGowan		2017-04-02
Josey Catherine Speller		2024-04-28
Linda Clare Ritchie		2026-05-10
Mark Jackson		2018-04-15
Maxine Rae Everitt		2025-05-18
Nicola de Borde		2025-05-01
PETER FOOT		2026-05-10
Patricia Wendy Tynan		2023-05-14
Phillipa Christine Regan		2025-05-18
Robert Charles Temple Slade		2024-06-09

Accounts

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****AIMS & PURPOSES****

Great Faringdon PCC is responsible, in co-operation with the Vicar, for promoting the whole mission of the Church (pastoral, evangelistic and social) within the ecclesiastical parish, and for maintaining the fabric of All Saints' Church, Str Mary's and Coach Lane cemetery.

The PCC of Great Faringdon is a corporate body established by the Church of England and operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The PCC exceeds the limits for exception from registering with the Charity Commission and is therefore registered under the name of "The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Great Faringdon" (Charity No. 1134401).

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. The membership of the PCC consists of the Vicar, Licensed Lay Ministers, Churchwardens, Deanery Synod representatives and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the church. All those who are members of our congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC is aware of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in "The advancement of Religion for the Public Benefit" and has regard to it in the administration of the parish.

The PCC believes that, by fulfilling its responsibility to work together with the Vicar and co-operating in all matters of concern and importance for the promotion of the whole mission of the Church, it provides a benefit to the public, both to individuals and to society as a whole, by: providing resources and facilities for public worship, pastoral care and spiritual, moral and intellectual development, both to its members and for anyone who wishes to benefit from what the church offers; promoting Christian values and the service by members of the church to their communities.

To facilitate this work, it is important that we also maintain the fabric of both All Saints' Church, St Mary's Church and the Barber Rooms.

This review summarises the life of Great Faringdon Parish during the calendar year 2025 and highlights many events and activities. Again, this year, those responsible for many of the church's activities have been invited to contribute.

The PCC met 9 times during 2025, with an average attendance of 15. During the year the following served as ex-officio members, members of the PCC either elected or invited to attend.

EX OFFICIO MEMBERS

Vicar	Rev'd Maria Jukes
Assistant Curate	Szabina Patel (from July 2025)
Licensed Lay Ministers	Robert Slade Graham Weller (Left parish in May 2025)
Church Wardens	Mark Jackson Linda Ritchie (until Annual Meeting of Parishioners May 2025) Annie Brooke (from Annual meeting of Parishioners May 2025)
Deputy Church Wardens	Douglas Lines Pippa Regan
Deanery Synod Reps (Until APCM 2026)	Peter Foot John Seedell Alice Voaden

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ELECTED MEMBERS (MEMBERS ARE ELECTED FOR THREE YEARS)

Until APCM 2026	Alice Voaden Chris Horley Christopher Raybone Wendy Tynan
Until APCM 2027	Chris Speller David Wilson Jim McGowan Nicola de Borde (Co-Opted)
Until APCM 2028	Aimee Husebo Maxine Everitt Douglas Lines Pippa Regan
Children, Families and Youth Minister (Co-opted)	Josey Speller
Hon Treasurer	David Wilson
Hon Secretary	Aimee Husebo
Safeguarding	Sarah Couzens (not PCC member)

VICAR'S REPORT

You will hopefully have noticed a major change in our Annual Report this year. Following our APCM last year, where we adopted a scheme that allowed us to revise our operation to match our legal structure (as one parish with two churches), this annual meeting now reflects the mission and ministry across both our churches in this parish. I want to begin by thanking PCC, wardens, and others who have been involved in this process of re-shaping St Mary's and All Saints' structures in a way that has helped us make this transition. It still feels like an ongoing process, but I am so thankful to everyone involved in the grace, patience and love you have shown both me and each other throughout. I never thought of wrestling with legal church structures as a place where the fruits of the spirit might grow so noticeable, but it has been a delight to discover!

On the theme of "growing"...

Looking to Jesus we seek to...

... be a loving community where everyone matters

... grow in His likeness

... share His love in our everyday life

This is the mission statement that, after over a year of consulting, reflecting and refining, the PCC adopted for All Saints' Church. A mission statement shouldn't be the most important thing, but it is something that should help us notice what God is already doing, and to gather around a sense of direction in where we believe He is leading us. We have shortened the Mission Statement into three words: Loving, Growing, Sharing. Words that challenge us to think about who we already are, as well as who God is calling us to become, and how this impacts the world around us.

We have already spent some time looking at "Sharing" in 2024, so in 2025 the focus in All Saints' was in the "Grow" part of our mission statement as we have spent some time thinking about Discipleship – what does it mean and look like to be a follower of Jesus? It has been an invitation for us to grow in faith and consider how the everyday habits and practices we take part in shape our lives. As we will move on to look at "Love" during 2026, I hope that we will continue to hold on to this desire to direct our whole lives towards Jesus, to seek to be shaped by him, and grow in our faith.

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This has also been a year thinking about growing at St Mary's – in discipleship, yes, but also in a more literal sense! Investigations and plans have been made into a Fresh Expression of Church we are hoping to plant during spring/summer 2026. "The Shed" allotment church will be based at the allotments in Little Coxwell and be a place for a monthly intergenerational service in a different format. Planting, weeding, sowing will be the scene for the bible to be opened, and prayers be lifted. Much of the groundwork (pardon the pun) has been in consulting with community, diocese and professionals during 2025 to make sure that we could make some realistic plans for work to begin in 2026. This has also been an exciting area of collaboration between our two churches as ideas and resources have been generously shared across the benefice.

Much more has happened over this last year and is covered in the numerous reports that together form our annual report, I commend all of this to you and would encourage you to read through for a holistic view of the mission and ministry that has taken place during an exciting and active 2025. Alongside these activities and ministries, we have also maintained our regular, and seasonal, service pattern in both All Saints' and St Mary's. In all these things I am extremely grateful to the ministry team for their support and contribution to All Saints' as well as lay leaders who have contributed much to the prayer life of the church. I think the gift of having different voices and experiences to draw from is something which contributes greatly to our worshipping life, and the support of Rev'd David Pickering alongside the retired clergy with PTO: Rev'd Chris Etherton, Rev'd Tim Hewes, Rev'd Dick Whittington, Rev'd Barbara Mapley, Rev'd Paul Winchester, lay minister Bob Slade, and Children, Families and Youth Minister Josey Speller is a blessing to our whole benefice.

2025 has also seen the addition to this ministry team in Szabina Patel as she has joined us as Assistant Curate. It has been a blessing to get to know her and also welcome her family to our church and community. Szabina is already contributing much to services, mission and pastoral ministry with her wisdom and prayerfulness. It has been great to see the monthly prayer service gain some new energy as Szabina, assisted by Tim DeBorde, has taken a lead on these and moved them to an in-person format in the Barber Rooms.

As well as a growing ministry team, there seems to be a growing congregation at our 10.30 service at All Saints'. During Sundays it is noticeable that main body and "pink seats" are frequently quite full, and the side aisles are increasingly being used. This emphasizes the need for our re-ordering project, particularly in how this will help us increase visibility in areas around columns. Please do continue to hold the re-ordering process in your prayers, particularly as the work undertaken in 2025 will enable us to apply for a faculty during 2026. My sincere thanks to the subcommittee who has undertaken such detailed and thorough work on this, and particularly Jim McGowan for his wise and gracious persistence in bringing this process forward. Also, a massive thanks to everyone who have taken part in consultations and questionnaires - all your views have been read and considered in our discussions and ensured that our proposals are formed in a way that better reflects the needs of our whole church.

We also have a couple of areas we hope to see more growth in, mainly around children and young people. Following the pastoral work we began at FCC in 2025, Josey is making plans for some out-of-school provision for youth together with friends in Faringdon Baptist Church, and an after-school provision for families in a similar format to Little All Sorts. Please do pray for the discernment around these two initiatives, and please also consider if you might be able to volunteer some time to serve on the teams for these.

As much of 2025 has followed that theme of "Growing", one particular blessing to me is the sense of growth in relationships and community in our church and beyond as I am nearing 3 years in ministry here. I am so thankful to everyone who continues to contribute to our church in different ways, for all who serve on different committees, teams, and in different roles. It is such a blessing to serve alongside you all, and to see how God is able to do amazing things through what we are able to bring. Thank you so much everyone, for the time and energy you give – but also for who you are, I so appreciate all your wisdom, care, enthusiasm and ... love! A theme I look forward to exploring more with you all in our next year together.

Every blessing,

Maria

FINANCIAL REVIEW FOR 2025 – DAVID WILSON

This is the first year that the final accounts presented have been for Great Faringdon Parish, rather than for All Saints' Faringdon and St Mary's Little Coxwell separately. This has required combining the brought forward amounts of the two sets of accounts, so these figures are different to those shown in either of last year's accounts. Note that for simplicity of calculation, the 2024 figures shown are for All Saints' Faringdon only.

Total receipts on unrestricted funds were £170,798 of which £115,627 was unrestricted planned voluntary donations, and a further £21,974 was from Gift Aid.

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Restricted income and donations (including gift aid) of £43,989 were also received. Of this, £17,860 relates to donations from individuals and final grant funds from the ODBF towards the cost of our Children & Families leader Josey Speller. A further £13,303 represents grants received by the Friends of St Mary's fund.

No legacies were received in the year.

£161,177 was spent from unrestricted funds to promote the whole mission of the church within the parish and beyond. Our diocesan parish share was paid in full (£72,474 after rebates received for paying by direct debit and because the deanery share for the first half of the year was paid in full before the end of July). Donations to missions and charities of £15,428 were made.

Overall funds decreased slightly by £4,120 during the year. There was a pleasing increase in the General Fund of £8,872. Restricted and Endowment funds both decreased in value, exacerbated by reductions in the value of funds invested in the stock market.

PCC RESERVES POLICY – DAVID WILSON

The PCC needs to hold reserves as it has fixed (and usually rising) expenditure each year to cover expenditure such as Parish Share, Parochial expenses, Insurance, Repairs and Maintenance, Gas/Electricity/Water to support church services with no guaranteed income.

The risk of income not arising each year to cover these core expenditure items is small (there are a reasonable number of committed/planned givers who provide a good base level of income each year).

The PCC believe that reserves amounting to between three and six months of annual expenditure on the items above is reasonable to cater for a downturn in income as well as providing an appropriate level of funds to cover any unexpected buildings or repairs expenditure. This would equate to between £40,000 and £80,000 on 2025 general expenditure.

The PCC currently has reserves (unrestricted and designated) that exceed this range. However, there are significant expected additional costs in 2026 and beyond, including:

- paying a full year's housing for our Curate
- fully funding our Children, Families and Youth Minister and
- paying for early stages of our church reordering plans

All these contribute to forecast deficit budgets for the next 3 years. As a result the PCC is comfortable with this position.

It remains our policy to invest the short-term investment fund balances with the CCLA Church of England Deposit Fund, and the remaining longer term investments in the CCLA Church of England Investment Fund.

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH FABRIC REPORT – JIM MCGOWAN (ON BEHALF OF THE FABRIC GROUP)

The main events during in 2025 have been:

1. Redecoration of baptistery
2. Installation of bike rack – we are extremely grateful to the cycling group Farcycles for a £700 grant towards the cost of installing the bike rack. The whole process of installing the bike rack was much longer and more complex than anticipated, mainly due to the requirement to obtain planning permission and confusion over whether we would be awarded a decarbonisation grant
3. Theft of lead from the baptistery roof – our roofer (Pete Hawkins) did an excellent job with the emergency repairs, and our CCTV system provided some very helpful footage for the police. [At the time of writing we are still negotiating with our insurance company on the long-term repairs].

A key activity scheduled for early 2026 is our Quinquennial Inspection, when our QI architect will take a detailed look at the condition of the church building and the Barber Rooms.

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Thank you to everyone who has been involved in looking after the fabric of our buildings over the past year – for polishing & cleaning, looking after the heating system, organising regular maintenance and servicing, changing inaccessible light bulbs, participating in working parties, removing weeds and cutting back shrubs, sorting out repair jobs, putting out the bins and everything else! We are extremely grateful for all that you do to look after our wonderful buildings.

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH REORDERING PROJECT – JIM MCGOWAN (ON BEHALF OF THE REORDERING PLANNING GROUP)

The Reordering Planning Group continued to meet throughout the year to develop our reordering proposals; the group is made up of Rev'd Maria Jukes, Mark Jackson, Dave Wilson, Alice Voaden, Jonathan Mapley, and Jim McGowan. We've also been working closely with our architect, Christian Randall of Conservation Architects, who are based in Wantage.

The key developments in 2025 have been:

- A sub-group of the Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC) visited All Saints' to discuss our initial proposals and provide helpful feedback. The DAC play a key role in deciding whether we are granted permission to go ahead with our ideas on reordering
- Consultation with the church family on our proposals
- Display (during Festive Faringdon) of our proposals and an encouragement to the wider community to provide feedback
- Investigating potential sources of grant funding
- Visits from specialists to advise on key aspects of our proposals (e.g. conservation work on medieval south door, installation of additional AV facilities, etc.)

All this work has helped us to develop and refine our Statement of Need (39 pages) and our Statement of Significance (29 pages); both these documents (along with various plans and sketches) are key for our application for a faculty (that is permission from the diocese to proceed). [Our faculty application was submitted early in 2026].

The next step in the process will be much more detailed discussions with various interested organisations, like the DAC, the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings (SPAB), the Victorian Society and Historic England.

COACH LANE CHURCHYARD REPORT – JIM MCGOWAN (ON BEHALF OF THE COACH LANE CHURCHYARD GROUP)

We are extremely grateful to all those who help with the maintenance of Coach Lane churchyard, our two main contractors (Gentle Giant Gardening and Sorbus), Wendy Tynan who does a huge amount of work at Coach Lane throughout the year and keeps an invaluable watchful eye on all that is happening at the churchyard, Richard Jukes (who faithfully takes the bins out) and Mark Ritchie, who carefully monitors the spread of ash die-back (ADB) disease amongst the many ash trees.

In addition to the regular maintenance, we are still looking at ways to develop a garden of remembrance (for the interment of ashes) in a small area of the churchyard, as well as pursuing the issue of compliance with churchyard regulations, particularly reducing the number of unapproved ornaments.

Finally, last summer some work was undertaken on the ash trees on the "boundary" line in the churchyard, with the emphasis being on the removal of dead or dangerous branches and self-seeded suckers.

DEANERY OF THE VALE OF THE WHITE HORSE – PETER FOOT

Following the Revd Canon Jason St John' Nicolle's seven years as Area Dean, Deanery Synod was pleased to welcome the new Area Dean, the Rev'd Maria Jukes, June 2025. Across the year, certain themes have been addressed.

Deanery Prayers

These continue on a weekly basis, supporting each of the benefices in the Deanery with prayer for each individual who holds an office in the churches. The prayers link the work and mission of the parishes to the Dorchester Area and Oxford Diocese, bringing before God individuals and departments at Church House, Oxford, who assist our churches. Going beyond that, we pray for church unity, for peace in our time, for environmental responsibility.

World Mission John Seedell has faithfully represented the Deanery in this Diocesan work and is now alongside the Rev'd Maria as she has accepted the Växjö Link Chair of the Diocesan connection to Sweden. Synod receives regular updates on activities, and this ensures Synod does not become narrow in its focus.

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Speakers Synod has received excellent presentations and discussions on local schools, parish flourishing and intergenerational churches.

Parish Share Synod is very grateful that Dave Wilson has agreed, as an interim measure, to take up the role of Deanery Treasurer. We are pleased that the Deanery performs well in Parish Share terms and especially grateful to All Saints' for its willingness to assist mid-year to ensure that almost all in the Deanery receive their half-year rebates from the Diocese.

PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER – SARAH COUZENS

Safeguarding has remained an important priority for Great Faringdon Parish over the past year, ensuring that our churches are safe and inclusive places for all. The year has seen a change in the Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO), with the new officer (Sarah Couzens) in this role now fully trained and inducted. Our thanks go to the previous PSO, Isobel Weller, for her many years of hard work and dedication to this position.

All Saints' Safeguarding Committee comprising all those directly involved in safeguarding at All Saints' has met on three occasions during the year and this has been a helpful forum in keeping up to date with diocesan and legal requirements for training and compliance as a PCC as well as changes in DBS providers.

Jilly Strongman our Church Administrator is trained as the DBS Recruiter/Verifier and continues to ensure this is undertaken where needed for roles in our parish. She also assists with people's online training needs as required. She remains a hugely valuable asset to the smooth running of safeguarding procedure in our church.

Josey Speller, the Children, Families and Youth Minister, oversees the different children and young people's groups and liaises with Maria (as incumbent) and Sarah (as the PSO) as necessary, ensuring that safer recruitment practices are carried out for all new volunteers.

The Diocesan Safeguarding Dashboard remains a useful tool for clarifying the steps required for working towards the safest possible environment and gives links to the latest documentation. Action plans generated from the Dashboard are shared with the PCC where safeguarding is a standing item on the agenda at meetings. The Safeguarding Hub also continues to be a helpful tailored resource for the specific DBS and training requirements for members of All Saints’.

Useful opportunities for networking via webinars and Zoom meetings especially resulting from the PSO training and induction process have enabled us to keep our knowledge current.

We have responded to a few concerns related to both children and young people as well as adults over the year involving the Diocesan Adviser and other external agencies as appropriate.

We would like to thank the church, particularly those volunteering in a wide range of different roles for their support and cooperation with Safeguarding – with undertaking training, raising awareness and responding to needs. Their dedication reflects that Safeguarding is truly Gospel work.

ST MARY'S SUBCOMMITTEE – PIPPA REGAN & DOUGLAS LINES

The main issue of the year was the Parish Boundary. It had been discovered that although St Mary's and All Saints' were acting as separate parishes, legally they were just one parish. Various options had been presented to both parishes and both had voted to keep the current legal status and remain as one Parish. Therefore, the process started to bring the operational structures in line with the current one-parish legal entity. The first steps were amalgamating the electoral roll and having a joint APCM which was achieved in May. St Mary's Finances were amalgamated with All Saints' and the Friends money was to be treated as a restricted fund. The PCC became a Sub Committee of the Gt Faringdon PCC and operated much as it always had in the running of St Mary's. The two St Mary's Church Wardens became Assistant Church Wardens and were allocated a place on the main PCC.

St Mary's held its own annual meeting to explain the changes and read out the reports to reflect the events of the year 2024.

The subcommittee worked with the Vicar and the retired clergy in spreading the word of the gospel and maintaining a Christian influence through twice-monthly services within Little Coxwell.

A new curate, Szabina Patel, was appointed to the Parish and Rev Maria Jukes was appointed Area Dean.

The PCC (January – May) and the St Mary's Sub Committee (May – December) comprised:

Rev Maria Jukes	Chairman
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Mrs Pippa Regan
Mr Douglas Lines
Mr Henry Boddington
Mr Philip Bathe
Mr Richard Bathe
Mr Derek Belcher
Mrs Clare Jarman

Assistant Church Warden
Assistant Church Warden

The committee met 5 times during the year in February, March, June, August and November. Services have been advertised through posters on the church noticeboard and the weekly benefice email sent out by the All Saints' team. Key services have also been advertised via the village email and WhatsApp groups.

The committee wishes to express their thanks to the following:

Liz New, Carol Mattingley, Caroline Weston and Jenny Gray - flower arranging for special services
Mr Derek Belcher and Mr Philip Bathe - churchyard maintenance

We would also like to thank those people who have contributed to the smooth running of the church by acting as sides persons and providing refreshments after the service (Clare Jarman, Derek Belcher & Philip Bathe), and to Colin Dyer, Henry Boddington, Clare Jarman, Douglas Lines, Dominic Regan and Johnny Hume who have read the lesson.

Services

There have been two services a month throughout the year. These are at 9am on the 2nd and 4th Sundays. One is Holy Communion and the other Morning Worship. These are generally Morning Worship on the 2nd Sunday and Holy Communion on the 4th Sunday. However, this can vary depending on the festivals and other events in the church calendar.

Special services have included the rural services, which were pioneered by Rev'd Paul Winchester, and are now usually taken by Rev'd Chris Etherton - Lammas, Plough Sunday and Rogation. Harvest Festival was taken by Rev'd Maria Jukes. Most services have been taken by Maria Jukes or Chris Etherton to whom we wish to extend our sincere thanks. We are also grateful to LLM Bob Slade, Curate Szabina Patel and retired clergy Rev'd Dick Whittington MBE.

The Morning Prayer Meeting continues to take place at St Mary's at 8.30 am on a Tuesday. This is usually attended by around 6 people.

Congregations for services have remained fairly consistent throughout the year with an average of 12. There is a solid nucleus drawn from the village and others from Faringdon and Stanford in the Vale. Little Coxwell is a hamlet with a population of around 120 so it is a healthy percentage of the population.

Other special services included:

Easter Day Communion (21 – up from 17)
Harvest Festival (21 - up from 18)
Remembrance Service (37 – up from 34)
Carols by Candlelight Service (66 – up from 55)
Christmas Day Communion (24 - down from 36)

There has been one funeral service during 2025 for Shirley Farrow.

Other events

Fundraising for the church over the year included a Harvest Supper raising £261, Ride and Stride £609 and a cake stall at the Little Coxwell Garden Fair £310. Thank you to all who worked so hard for these events.

Christmas

On the Thursday before Christmas a group from the congregation and other villagers went carol singing around Little Coxwell raising funds of £140 for the Faringdon Food Bank . The villagers of Little Coxwell embrace advent with a new window in the village being decorated on each day of December. On 21st December we held our Carols by Candlelight and decorated the back of the Chancel with our nativity set as our church advent window.

Fabric

We carried out work according to the Quinquennial Inspection (£15,816) and the crown reduction of the lime trees (£3,596). Roof repairs of £403 were also incurred. During the works in the QI being completed, Peter Hawkins identified some other repairs necessary on the roof. The plan remains to carry out internal redecoration works as and

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when funds allow. New heaters were installed after the year end. Those have been less successful than hoped and improving them will be investigated in 2026.

The Friends of St Mary restricted fund covered £596 of the cost of insuring the church building. The churchyard continues to be maintained to a very high standard by Derek Belcher, ably assisted by Philip Bathe. St Mary's Church are exceptionally grateful to both for the fantastic job they do. St Mary's Church are also grateful for those who contribute to the Friends of St Mary's fund, which enables us to carry out repairs and maintenance to the building, ensuring its upkeep and availability for future generations.

Finance

See Treasurer's Financial Report

The Future

Attendance figures remain fairly consistent, and it is hoped these can be increased to expand our Church community. We are always grateful to receive suggestions and ideas regarding the organisation of the affairs of St Mary's.

CHURCH WARDEN REVIEW OF THE YEAR 2025 – ANNIE BROOKE & MARK JACKSON

This past year has seen many exciting opportunities for the life of our church.

We have welcomed our lovely curate, Szabina and her family, and it feels as if she has always been with us. We were pleased that Josey accepted a new 3-year contract to build on the ministry she has already grown with us, now in capacity as Children, Families and Youth Minister. We are grateful for her creativity and enthusiasm which she pours into everything she does. We also saw Maria take up her position as Area Dean. Let's continue to pray for wisdom and guidance for her in this exciting role!

Our church adopted a new mission statement this past year, which gives focus to all that we do in the life of our church. *Looking to Jesus we seek... To be a loving community where everyone matters, to grow in His likeness, and to share His love in our everyday lives: Loving, Growing, Sharing.*

We can grow in His likeness through discipleship, and this has been a major theme of the last year. The Alpha course provides a path into discipleship while exploring areas of our faith. This is a popular course that is run each year, and we are seeing people come to Christ through it.

The second half of the year has been discipleship focused with our homegroups working through the Practicing the Way video series - a practical pathway for discipleship.

It was also very exciting to see our Sunday youth starting this year. Thank you to all the leaders who have stepped up with a real heart for our teenagers!

As we strive to be a loving community where everyone matters, we welcomed the community through our doors in our Civic and Remembrance Day services. Both of these services see the church bursting at the seams!

Maria began a new midweek service this year as well. This has been a real asset to our list of services and has been offered in conjunction with our Community Cafe. Thank you to all of the volunteers who have given their time to make sure that this service can happen.

During the month of August, Maria presented our Summer Sermon Series "Try Church August" - a great opportunity for us to invite friends along in a more relaxed setting. The series culminated with our Ice Cream Sundae Sunday, which is always a hit with our families! As with most years, it rained; let's pray for a sunny day this year!

As we strive to share His love in our everyday lives, we planned many opportunities to involve the community in the life of our church.

Folly Fest is always an exciting weekend for opening the church to the community. We continued with the much-anticipated Teddy Bear Zipline, bell tower tours, and a special bell ringing demonstration on the front path. This weekend was also an opportunity for our community to comment on our reordering plans. Jim McGowan did an excellent job on the displays and presenting the plans clearly to the community.

After years of prayer, Faringdon Community College agreed to have a small group of leaders present on campus one day a week for pastoral support. Please continue to pray for more opportunities in this area!

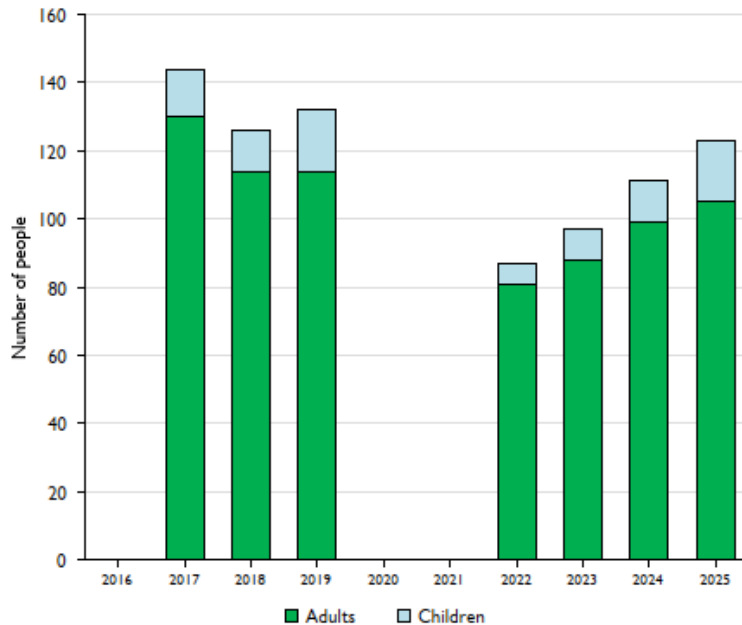
During our Advent season, we replaced Messy Christmas with our Crib Service - complete with our Grumpy Innkeeper churchwarden! It was well attended on Christmas Eve, and a great opportunity to see some of our families from Little All Sorts joining in.

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Personally, one of my favourite outreach activities during Advent was our Carols in the Pub night at The Swan. It was an evening which started off a little tenuous but ended with the entire (packed!) pub singing carols of our saviour's birth and winning over even the grumpiest of bar flies. It was definitely the highlight of my year!

Our church attendance is also growing each week, and it's very exciting to see. As we become more visible and active in the community, we pray that this growth continues throughout 2026.

Average Sunday attendance:



St Mary's activities have been reported in the subcommittee report above, and we are thankful for the cooperation, engagement and growing relationship we have seen this year with the church in Little Coxwell. Many thanks to Pippa and Douglas for their ongoing commitment and contributions to the life of the church, and the rest of the congregation at St Mary's for their support and ongoing witness to their community.

And, finally, a huge thank you to everyone who donates their time and energy to all that happens throughout Great Faringdon Parish. You are not only contributing to the ongoing mission of the church, but you are advancing His kingdom throughout greater Faringdon! So, thank you from both myself and Mark.

Annie & Mark

****ALL SAINTS' PRAYER MINISTRY****

PRAYER MINISTRY TEAM – MARY MOUNTFORD-LISTER

It is a joy and privilege to lead the Prayer Ministry team here at All Saints'. We are a team of 7 people and would love to have more people join us. We offer prayer for members of our congregation during communion and after communion services. This takes place in the Prayer Space in the Baptistry area of the church. We always warmly welcome everyone for prayer and we always pray as a pair of team members.

The prayer that we offer grows out of our dependence on God and our trust that he is with us as we pray and cares deeply for us all. We have found that many things draw people to come for prayer. It may simply be a sense that it's helpful to say the things that concern us out loud and to know that we have been heard and held in prayer. Sometimes people come to pray about things that are happening in their lives, health, or with their families, or about decisions to be made. At other times the content of the service or theme of the sermon might prompt people to come for prayer. All are welcome.

About one to three people tend come forward for prayer ministry at each service, and we have found that one pair of prayer team members is usually sufficient. However, we do keep an eye on the queue and will ask other members of the team to form a second pair if needed. We don't want anyone to leave without having time and space to pray.

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We are a team who care about each other and want to offer this ministry with care, wisdom and sensitivity. We have all done the Diocesan Safeguarding Training and several of us have done Mental Health First Aid Training (validated by Mental Health First Aid England and delivered for us in a bespoke course by our own Dan Butcher at the end of 2024). We met for a team update and opportunity to reflect together on our ministry in April 2025 and will do so again in May 2026. These opportunities to come together and learn from and encourage each other are a vital part of the ministry that is visible in church, and which is a thread in the wider prayer life in our All Saints' Family.

INTERCESSIONS TEAM – PAM DE WIT

At present there are 11 members of the congregation in the Intercessions team, invited by Maria to share in leading the Intercessions at All Saints' 10.30 Holy Communion and Services of the Word.

We train together as a team. Our training sessions in the last two years began with an induction for new members, combined with a refresher for 'old hands'. Most recently, in March this year, the team met for shared reflection on our own experience and best practice. This meeting was lively and confident: it was clear that everyone understands their role and what their current practice is, and why.

Our task is a representative one on behalf of the congregation. We are there to find words that will bring us all closer to God and help us to pray for the Church and for the World, and to thank God for His goodness. We make space in the silence for everyone to bring to God the needs of those they know who are in any kind of trouble or sorrow or sickness. We pray regularly for the All Saints' Charity of the Month. We pray for King Charles and for our new Archbishop Sarah; and in this time of widespread anxiety about public life in the UK and the wider world, we wrestle with how to pray in complicated times, remembering those in positions of power, and those who suffer, and those who work for peace.

While there is an overall shared pattern to the Intercessions as we do them at present, we are also glad to see the diversity of age, background and style that different members of the team bring to our current practice. We hope that between us we are managing to fulfil our aim 'to pray the prayers of people's hearts'.

PRAYERS ON FRIDAY – HELEN & MARK JACKSON

Prayers on a Friday 7.40 – 8.30am by zoom in 2025

This group has been going for over 40 years and moved to zoom since the beginning of lockdown. The zoom link is published in the church News Letter every week. It is open to anyone who would like to pray for any situation both local and international. Each meeting starts with a passage of Scripture and then prayers follow as people feel led. There is no compulsion to pray out loud and any and every topic for intercessory prayer is acceptable. Newcomers are welcome so feel free to log on one Friday morning and see whether you want to come back! We are regularly a group of 9 and it is a great way to start the day.

MONTHLY PRAYER MEETING – SZABINA PATEL

Facilitating the Monthly Prayer Meeting since October 2026 has been a real blessing. The gathering had previously been organised on Zoom. Meetings initially began at 7:30pm, but the start time was later moved to 7:45pm due to other activities taking place in the Barber Rooms, which serve as the venue.

It has been great to have Tim de Borde on board, who co-led the meetings by leading worship and sharing biblical reflections. Special thanks also go to Nikki de Borde for her help with the slides, and to Josey for her support with the technology and planning. Thanks, are also due to our incumbent, Maria, for her guidance in shaping the direction of the meetings.

The aim of these meetings has been to combine Spirit-led worship and intercession, often centred around a particular seasonal theme.

Attendance has ranged from around 12 to 25 people each month. The hope is that this meeting will continue to develop and grow as we partner with Christ and with one another in intercession.

Heartfelt thanks go to everyone who has attended these sessions. May they continue to be a blessing to all who gather, as together we seek God's will for the world, the Church and our local community.

PRAYER CHAIN – JENI SUMMERFIELD

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This is a much-valued aspect of our prayer life at All Saints' with the three strands of the prayer chain continuing to work to uphold those in need before the Lord.

If you wish to make a prayer request you can speak to Maria, Szabina, the church wardens or any one of the three of us named below. We are all happy to receive an email which is then forwarded to the three prayer chains. If however, the request is extremely urgent you may make contact by phoning one of us.

If you would like to be on the prayer chain, please let Jeni know and you will be added to one of the three lists.

Jeni Summerfield	jenisummerfield@btinternet.com	01367 240912
Ruth Seedell	ruth.seedell@gmail.com	01367 242440
Barbara Mapley	barbaramapley@gmail.com	01367 615009

****ALL SAINTS' CHURCH ACTIVITIES****

CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND YOUTH MINISTER REPORT – JOSEY SPELLER

Little All Sorts

Our baby and toddler group continues to be a highlight of the week – for the families and for our wonderful team of leaders. At times numbers are low and there is always a natural turnover as parents go back to work or children start school. A few families come to other events outside of Little All Sorts which is encouraging and is something we wish to develop in 2026. There is always room for more on the team so if you can help once a month, please do speak to me.

Junior Saints

It's been a great year with good growth. We are seeing new families join us and I am hugely grateful for the team of leaders. We've been trying to involve children more in our services and we've had great feedback around the children and communion. The intergenerational slots at the beginning of the service are also good ways to encourage different ages to worship together. We use Roots most weeks to plan the teaching which works well and provide resources for both Junior Saints, Sunday Youth and our all-age services.

The challenge that comes from the growth in number is that there is now the need for more groups so that we can better provide for the actual ages we're getting on Sunday mornings. If you would like to talk about becoming a leader with the children, please do speak to me. They children really are a delight to teach and be with on a Sunday morning.

Sunday Youth

This group meets during the communion services. It has remained up and down in terms of attendance, but when the young people come, they relate well to one another and respond well. The team of leaders are great and have a real passion for teaching young people. In September a youth worker started at the Baptist Church so we're hoping for some joint work together in 2026.

Junior Schools

We had four visits from the schools this year. The majority are from The Elms as they are much closer and easier to walk to us. It is harder for Folly View to come to the church as they need more staff and helpers to walk them to the school. We did have the reception classes come as they spent a whole day at The Elms. This year, we've had a couple of families want to come to church on Sundays because they came with their class.

Faringdon Community College

After much patience and perseverance from Maria in the Autumn term, we began a weekly visit to the school to work with their pastoral team. A lot of their work is with year 10's and 11's who are particularly stressed, so we are doing smaller group work with years 7's and 8's to do some early intervention work. We aim to be a gentle Christian presence in the school, with a focus on supporting the school in their pastoral offering respecting the secular environment this takes place within.

Other Activities

Our 'Messy Church' style events were changed this year. At Easter we offered crafts for all in the Barber Rooms on Easter Day which worked well in bringing families together. At Christmas we had a crib service which again proved positive – thank you to all those involved. In the summer we had activities after our 'ice cream Sunday' service, which was a lovely way to start the new term.

Christmas also saw us again leading the NSPCC carol service with some wonderful Christmas Jumpers (the majority joyfully loaned by my Christmas attire loving husband Chris!). Brenda Barber organises this so wonderfully each year

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and I'm already looking forward to their 60th service in 2026! The Christingle service was before Christmas again this year and seems to suit its new time of the year. Our other Christmas offering was to open the church during Festive Faringdon and it was a delight to work with the Baptist church on some puppet shows.

Once again, we had our teddy bear zipwire during Folly Fest, with the addition of a go kart run! Even though we've done this for three years, it proves to be a really popular event and a great way to bring some of the wider community into the church. Other highlights from the year the retreat day in September, family games, detached youth work and Szabina joining the team.

I was delighted that I could carry on the ministry at All Saints' for another three years – enormous thanks to those who journeyed with Chris and I through this change. Faringdon is a wonderful place to worship, and I am blessed to be working in such a supportive church. My biggest thanks must go to all those of you who volunteer throughout the year for any of the activities we run – without your prayers, love, time and energy; the ministry to children, youth and families wouldn't happen.

ALL SAINTS' ECO CHURCH GROUP – PETER FOOT

The main business of the year was getting ready, in the first half of the year, for the visit by Professor Mick Crawley FRS and building on what we learned from him in the second half. The Professor has made a life-long, comparative study of the churchyards on the Ridgeway and the Golden Ridge. As Faringdon is situated on the latter, he already has made visits and surveys of plant life in our churchyard.

The reason we invited such a distinguished expert to review our space was to get the very best advice as to how to develop a regime of care and maintenance for the churchyard, in conjunction with the Town Council – which has overall responsibility for maintaining the churchyard. We also had a visit from other experts who surveyed our lichens. We learned the importance of not introducing species plants outside those 'native' to our region; where things needed special protection and what was too abundant; and where outside help would be needed.

The outcome of all of that was a recommendation to the PCC on the way forward for 2026. Drs de Wit and Ritchie drew up a plan for the churchyard and establishing a sequence of work. Details of these proposals are shown in the relevant PCC Minutes of Meetings. Conversations with the Town Council will finalise the practical elements of these. However, there is an amount of work which the Eco Group will need to do for the church and that will need rather more youthful bodies than are currently available in the Group. The Eco Group looks forward to 2026 being a year of volunteers doing occasional working party tasks, thereby ensuring that the excellent advice received, and the superb planning, are given practical expression in 2026.

Not the least of the planned benefits from all of this is greater access and attractiveness for the community. We already have primary schools visiting and it would be good to be able to offer a better set of pathways and signage to help. This is very much a development that the Town is keen to promote and foster. Although it is not a driver of things, all this activity will undoubtedly help in any future application for a Gold Award from Eco Church/A Rocha.

ALL SAINTS' SOCIAL COMMITTEE – MAXINE EVERITT

The PCC organised two social events in 2025

1. The Strawberry Tea on 21st June, which was attended by about 45 people. Volunteers served sandwiches, scones with cream and fresh strawberries and cake. As in previous years those invited were people living alone. Many of those attending were members of the congregation but also people from the nearby sheltered housing. Everyone, attendees and volunteers appeared to enjoy the event tremendously.
2. The Advent Tea on 6th December was attended by around 40 people. The PCC agreed that the invitation should be extended to include people who are carers, along with the person needing care as being a carer can be more isolating even than living alone. The Community Café hosts a Parkinson's group and there is a Memories Club, based at the Reform Church so we extended invitations through these groups. Volunteers served our guests with sandwiches, sausage rolls, mince pies and lots of cake. Afterwards we all greatly enjoyed singing carols – many thanks to Ruth Seedell who accompanied us.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who volunteered to help with these events, setting up and clearing after the event, assisting and greeting and ensuring the safety of our guests up the steep path and into the Barber Rooms, baking cakes, preparing sandwiches, hosting tables, keeping the tea cups topped up, serving, chatting and all sorts of things! I would also like to thank the PCC for their support and look forward to the events in 2026.

ALL SAINTS' COMMUNITY CAFE – JULIE SLADE

The Community Café started in May 2024. In origin, it was a follow-on from a bereavement course that had run earlier that year. It was conceived as a gathering at which people could choose to meet monthly. It takes place in the Barber Rooms and is open to all. It has been a delight to be part of this project, with a good number of people gathering from the start, both from within and outside of the Church. The local Parkinson's Society group has also joined in.

During 2025 Café sessions ran from 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month. People come for tea and cake at cost, and there is plenty of time to sit, chat and spend time together. We have tried offering crafts, but conversation is much more popular.

The new Café days and times are so that the café will precede midweek Church services and people going can meet and chat before those. The café and the services can work together, or people can go just to one or to the other.

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH MISSION PARTNERS – JOHN SEDELL

When we extend our discipleship beyond these shores, we need to raise our eyes to a vision that is close to God's vision for the world. We can enlist help from those who daily dedicate their lives to this purpose.

We continue to support a range of Mission Partners through financial support, prayer, and by highlighting their work during our Mission of the Month display and information in weekly News Letter. The Mission Partners committee met in November 2025, and we decided, following interest and information provided by church members for our consideration, to support two new partners: International Justice Missions and Adventure+. We hope that our work with these new mission partners will support works for justice, particularly in areas of people trafficking and child exploitation through the work of IJM, and lead to mutual support in the mission to young people in our area and further afield through the ministry of Adventure+. We look forward to learning more about their work during 2026.

Please do take time to look at the Mission of the Month table in church for information of the work of our different mission partners throughout the year.

One of the mission partners we have supported for many years is the Church Mission Society, better recognised as CMS.

CMS was established on the 12th of April 1799 by a group known as 'The Clapham Sect', William Wilberforce and Charles Simeon were early members of the movement.

Today CMS through its many projects reaches out to people on the edges of society in over 150 countries. The work is so wide ranging, a more detailed appreciation of the various projects can be gained by viewing their website info@churchmissionsociety.org.

Here what CMS say about themselves:

'We exist to make disciples of Jesus at the edges, but crucially, we are also disciples ourselves. As we seek transformation for those who might have presumed Jesus wasn't for them, we – and those who accompany us through prayer, giving and taking action – are also being continuously transformed.'

'CMS is made up of disciples of Jesus from various countries, cultural backgrounds and walks of life. When we say "we" we are talking about a vibrant mix of people in mission from the UK, Africa, Latin America, Europe, the Middle East and Asia – all following Jesus to the edges together.'

Here at All Saints' we support the work of Marcio Ciechanowicz and Noemi Celeti who live and work in San Paulo, Brazil. Please read their latest newsletter and other CMS material which is on the CMS notice board in the Barber Rooms entrance.

Marcio and Noemi are not just some distant disciples of Christ working thousands of miles away – on the 19th of January 2025 we welcomed them to our 10.30 service, we enjoyed hearing about their work, hearing firsthand about 'Du Park' where they have created a community of all comers to receive hospitality, play games and hear about the love of Jesus. All in a local park with a prefabricated boat for indoor activities.

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Please pray for Marcio, Noemi and their family in Brazil and the world mission activity of CMS. For ourselves here at All Saints' let's pray for our discipleship, that we reach out to those living on the edges of society here in Faringdon, or wherever God calls us.

ANNA CHAPLAINCY & PASTORAL WORK – JULIE SLADE

Anna Chaplaincy is named after the widow, Anna, present when Jesus was presented as a baby in the Temple by Mary and Joseph. It is organised and supported nationally by BRF Ministries (Abingdon) and locally at All Saints'. Both Anna and Simeon, who was there also, are good role models of faithful, older people.

Anna Chaplaincy offers spiritual support to older people, including those living in their own home, in a care home or in sheltered accommodation, as well as to their relatives and staff members who care for them.

At All Saints' we have a team that visits care homes (Ferendune Court and Coxwell Hall) once a month to take a communion service and individuals are visited at other times. We have also joined in some events organised by the homes.

As part of our pastoral team, we also visit several people from Church, many of whom are no longer able to come to Sunday services. It has been a joy to see some of this group now manage to attend the fortnightly midweek service in the Barber Rooms and the community café.

In 2026 we will explore becoming a dementia friendly church and will plan some activities to inform and inspire our work in this area. Please keep a look out for upcoming events and share your thoughts and ideas with Julie.

ALPHA COURSE – HELEN & MARK JACKSON

Alpha started on October 7, 2025, as an 8-week course meeting every Tuesday evening from 7pm to 9.15pm and a Saturday Holy Spirit morning on November 15 at All Saints' Church.

The format of the evening is sharing a meal together, watching the Alpha film, followed by a discussion of the content of the film (we give everyone an Alpha manual and that covers the content of each film). The Holy Spirit morning gives more time to discussion and an opportunity to receive personal prayer. We are very grateful to everyone who volunteered to cook a meal for us all and wash up afterwards. We started as a group of 9, most of whom came through personal invitation, and ended up with a core group of 10. We were delighted that two who came last year came back for a second time and one person who had attended the Bereavement Journey in January also came. It is the first year that everyone has been able to attend the Holy Spirit morning. It is always a privilege to participate in people's spiritual journey, and the group has carried on meeting as a home group.

There were two changes to this year that made a difference.

1. Whoever cooked the meal joined in and ate with the group, so they were able to get to know other members of the congregation
2. We had an intercessory prayer who came and prayed in the church throughout our meeting time

THE BEREAVEMENT JOURNEY (TBJ) – HELEN JACKSON

All Saints' Faringdon ran the bereavement journey for the second time in January 2025. It is a 6- or 7-week course for people who have been bereaved at any time. The 7th week is an optional session on faith related questions. The first 6 weeks are about grief and bereavement in general and therefore open to people of any faith or none. The course was advertised through the White Horse Medical Practice and online via Sobell House. It was also advertised at the All Souls' service the previous November. We ran two groups with a total of 11 participants and 5 helpers plus a qualified on-call counsellor. Only four of the participants lived in Faringdon and five of the participants had no church affiliation. One has since done the Alpha course in October. There was very positive feedback about the course and several still meet up with each other.

ALL SAINTS' HOME GROUPS – ANDREW SARGENT

During 2025 All Saints' ran seven home groups:

- Mondays, weekly, 8-9.30pm, leader: Chris & Josey Speller, venue: alternates
- Mondays, fortnightly, 7.30pm, leader: Linda & Mark Ritchie, venue: Fernham Manor

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- Tuesdays, weekly, 9.30am, leader: Peter Foot, venue: Kay Fox/Zoom
- Wednesdays, fortnightly, 7.30-9.15pm, leader: Mark & Helen Jackson
- Thursdays, fortnightly, 7.45-9pm, contact: Katie Foot, venue 64 Coxwell Road
- Thursdays, fortnightly, 7.45-9pm, leader: Andrew Sargent, venue: 1 Wearn Road
- Thursdays, 7.30-9pm, leader: Chris & Josey Speller, venue: alternates

Further groups are planned.

Numbers inevitably vary due to individual circumstances, but currently around 70 congregation members attend a group. Individual groups usually have 8-12 members.

Last year most groups followed the Dazel (Evangelism) Course in the spring and the Practicing the Way (Discipleship) Course in the late autumn. For the rest of the years each group chose its own topics for study. These included Biblical material – Mark's and John's gospels, John's epistles, and the book of Revelation – and topical courses devised by charities and theologians.

Each group is different, but in addition to study and discussion different groups may pray together, sing or share a meal. The Wednesday group avoids meeting on the 1st Wednesday of the month so that members are free to go to the church prayer meeting (if they wish).

Our hope as a church is that more of our members would want to meet together in small groups, pray and study together, get to know one another, and through these experiences grow in faith together.

Here is a snapshot of what some of our groups have been doing:

Monday Home Group – Chris & Josey Speller

We are a committed group of 8 people meeting weekly. We have two wonderful houses that alternate in hosting. During 2025 we have studied 'Together for good', 'Discipleship on the frontline', 'Make Room', 'The Dazel Course' 'The Romans Course' and the first part of 'Practicing the way'. We enjoy doing life together, studying a variety of subjects and how the bible can be applied in our everyday lives and praying for each other.

Tuesday Home Group – Peter Foot

During 2025, our group got used to being with each other, meeting in one of our houses rather than on Zoom. We meet on a Tuesday morning for two hours. In many ways, in 2025 we were still feeding off the earlier study we did by going through Tom Wright's biography of St Paul. But this year we deliberately chose smaller studies from the Cover-to-Cover series: *Mary*, *Revelation* and *1 Timothy*. Perhaps the most rewarding sessions were those where each member took it in turns to share a Bible reading, explaining its importance to them and the wider implications of the passage. The year concluded with the Practicing the Way course.

Wednesday Home Group – Mark & Helen Jackson

In 2025 we did the Dazel Course on Zoom with the Gilpins and Practicing the Way. In between we did the gospel of John which we have gone back to. We are on Chapter 14. There are 13 on our books. Usually, approximately 11 come. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday evening so that we can go to the church prayer meeting on the 1st Wednesday of the month.

Thursday Home Group – Update by Chris & Josey Speller hosted by Kate Crebbin

We meet weekly, usually at Kate's house, but also alternating when needed. This group was originally set up by Helen Wilson, who we regularly remember with delight. There are several who take turns in leading the studies. Amongst other things in 2025 we studied 'Discipleship on the frontline', some studies on Mark's gospel, a lent series and the first part of 'Practicing the way'. We are a group of 6 who meet most weeks. Most in the group are parents to teenage and older young people. We are open to new members joining us.

ALL SAINTS' FRIENDSHIP DIRECTORY – MARGARET STARR

A final version of the friendship directory has recently been published. Going forward we will be using "My Church Suite App" for our directory, and we are currently in the process of moving to the app. A paper copy will be available to those that are unable to use the App.

We would like to thank Julia Burn and Margaret Starr for all their hard work in producing and maintaining this directory over the past years.

FLOWER GUILD – JENI SUMMERFIELD

The Flower Team needs new recruits to help with church decorating. The work is very enjoyable, and the group is friendly and supportive. No previous experience is required as we offer 'on the job' training.

Since Covid restrictions we haven't had a weekly rota, and we only put fresh flowers in the church for the main festivals, weddings and funerals.

As we are an Eco church we are working under the guidelines of the Sustainable Church Flower movement [Sustainable Church Flowers](#) and over the last two years have stopped using floral foam. We make every effort to only use flowers that are not produced with the use of chemicals and flown thousands of miles.

We usually arrange the flowers on Friday mornings, but sometimes it's necessary to do them at different times depending on our own commitments or if we have mid-week events. If you, or anyone you know, might be interested in joining us I should be very pleased to explain more about our work.

OPEN CHURCH – CHRIS HORLEY

Thank you to all the sitters for their time, effort and perseverance, without you there would be no one to greet visitors. Thank you also to Jilly for organising the rota and showing people around. In the visitor's book people actually thank the sitters for their times and trouble: "Fantastic tour guide", "Tried to visit many times – lucky to be let in today". So, the more sitters we have the better.

We had 63 recorded visitors by our sitters, but some data was missed. There were 26 entries in the visitor's book – slightly less than the previous year (running from March to March). The last entry for 2025 on 29th October was on the occasion of the visitors 65th wedding anniversary.

We had visitors from USA, Singapore, Netherlands and Germany; the man said, "thank you for the Key" (I hope he didn't keep it!). It is worthwhile showing people around this beautiful Church – they very much appreciate it.

ALL SAINTS' SINGERS – KAREN BRUSCH

The All Saints' Worship Group have had a year of combining good traditional songs with searching for new and recently learnt worship music. It has also been great to have Annie and Ed leading us, once a month. The worship group has continued to grow in confidence in learning new songs, and in harmonising. For the observant among you, you will have seen that we look for a newly composed worship song for Christmas. Whilst we all love the traditional carols and other Christmas songs, listening out for what the Holy Spirit is moving people to write is always refreshing. One change we have made this year is ensuring that there is almost always a traditional hymn to end our Services with; ensuring there is a mix of well-known and newer songs to worship through. We continue to pray before every Sunday morning service that the Holy Spirit will go before us and lead us afresh in raising our voices to Jesus our Lord. We're now looking forward to Easter and begun our rehearsals!

ALL SAINTS' BELL RINGERS – PETER HUNT (TOWER CAPTAIN)

Notable VoWH Branch Events

The branch practice was held at All Saints', in place of our normal practice on 19th January. The tower was pretty full with 21 attendees but this was fewer than the record number from the previous year. The branch AGM was held at Stanford-in-the-Vale on Saturday 15th March. The branch dinner was held at the Woodman, Fernham on Friday 3rd October.

Quarter Peals and Peal

On Saturday 22nd February a quarter peal (lasting about 45 minutes) was rung by two of our young ringers, both aged 13. It was a first quarter for one and a first quarter as conductor for the other both achievements being at the first attempt.

A quarter peal was rung on Saturday 14th June by a visiting band which incorporated some Faringdon ringers.

On Saturday 20th July Daniel Watson, our distinguished young, now adult ringer, rang a complex peal, lasting three hours, to celebrate his eighteenth birthday. We repeated the publicity that we had used in 2024 for all the above events.

A Faringdon band rang a quarter peal for the All Saints' carol service on Sunday 14th December.

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VOWH Branch Quiz

The first social event during 2025 was the branch general knowledge quiz held in the Barber Rooms on Saturday 5th April. This was hosted by Faringdon ringers, being their reward for winning the previous quiz at Uffington in 2024. Questions and quiz structure were expertly conceived and delivered by Caroline, one of our ringers and her husband, Ifor. Food for the event (Coq-au-Vin, new potatoes and green beans) was superb, plentiful and prepared and delivered by the Crown Hotel (at £10 per head). The quiz was won by a team from the Swindon Branch (the Stay Benders) who were presented with the golden clapper and will host the next quiz. Faringdon came fourth out of the six teams.

Tower AGM

The tower AGM was held on April 14th in the Barber Rooms on the Monday of Holy Week replacing our normal practice. There were thirteen attendees including Maria plus four apologies. Peter Hunt, Julian Watson and Elin Bornemann were re-elected as Tower Captain, Steeple Keeper and Treasurer, respectively. The authoring of articles for the Faringdon Advertiser will continue to be shared between Faringdon and Stanford-in-the-Vale. Ropes were repaired on the second and sixth bells. Julian is to liaise with Jilly for digital storage of tower artefacts, possibly on the Church based cloud facility.

Faringdon Rotary Club

On Wednesday 23rd April five ringers hosted and, I believe, impressed a party of members of the Faringdon Rotary Club. We provided an introduction to bell ringing, a close up view of our bells and a demonstration of us ringing as a band. The club kindly made a donation to our tower fund.

Ringling for the 80th Anniversary of D-Day

On Thursday 8th May twelve ringers turned up at 6.30pm to ring for the 80th Anniversary of VE Day in line with CCCBR (Central Council of Church Bell Ringers) and Town Council requests. We also rang for the 80th anniversary of VJ Day on Friday 15th August.

VOWH Branch and ODG Competitions

Faringdon entered two teams (as did Shrivenham) in the VOWH Branch 6 Bell Striking Contest on May 16th at Longcot. There were eight teams in total. The contests are judged on the quality of the way a test piece is rung. The All Saints' teams came second and seventh. Longcot came first and won the shield. Two of Longcot's ringers are members of Faringdon tower and two more are regular Faringdon ringers. As in 2024 the winning team went on to represent the Branch at the inter-branch contest of the ODG which in 2025 was held at Cuddington on 4th October. The team also entered a Raising and Lowering Competition held at Horspath on the same afternoon. The team, which at that date contained five regular Faringdon ringers, came third (out of seven) and second (out of five) in the two respective competitions.

Folly Fest

The church was opened to visitors on the Saturday of Folly Fest and, as last year, hosted a hand bell ringing workshop in the nave given by the St. Denys hand bell ringing group from Stanford-in-the-Vale. At the request of the Folly Fest organisers the VOWH branch arranged for its Mini Ring to be assembled outside of All Saints' church, just to the left of the main door. This provided its usual attraction for visiting children.

For visitors interested in visiting the ringing room we positioned a smart TV in the Upper Asset Room with a ringer (Jon) on hand to help visitors understand bell ringing via selected YouTube videos. In the ringing room itself a standalone television was set up to be able to play recordings, taken in both the ringing room and the belfry, of a peal being rung, as well as short clips panning around the bells at rest - the belfry was kept inaccessible to the public. Thanks go to Jilly who also printed and laminated some close up A3 photographs of the bells for us to show visitors.

Weddings

There were three weddings which required bells in 2025, on April 26th, May 24th and August 14th. We rang all eight bells for each of the weddings.

Outing

On Saturday 11th October we had an enjoyable outing to six towers in the Cotswolds, organised on behalf of the VOWH Branch by one of our young ringers (with his Mother's help). The number of bells at each tower varied from six to ten. Lunch was at Moreton-in-the-Marsh.

Town Council Meeting

I was invited to the Town Council Meeting in the Corn Exchange on November 26th, along with various other local organisations. I took along some materials to exhibit and promote our activity.

General

PARISH OF GREAT FARINGDON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

ANNUAL REPORTS & ACCOUNTS FOR 2025

We have rung every Sunday for the 10.30am service and invariably manage to ring all eight bells. We rang for the NSPCC Carol Service (1st December). Maria and Mark attended our Christmas celebration in the ringing room on the 15th of December. Maria was given a tasting session for handling a bell. We rang for the late Christmas Eve service with the help of two ringers from Stanford-in-the-Vale.

Safeguarding

The Basic Awareness courses are up to date for all ringers as well as the Foundation course for myself. All courses are under the control of Jilly who now issues reminders to individuals in the band prior to their three-year refreshment (2026) course becoming due.

2026 Centenary of the Recast and Rehang of the bells in 1926

We have had some feedback from the article that was published in the Faringdon Advertiser and from its mention in last year's APCM Report. Caroline has visited Taylor's bell foundry at Loughborough and gleaned more information about the bells. We are hoping to have some celebratory ringing, hold a service and have a social event to mark the centenary.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER (WDP) – KATE BUTCHER

This ecumenical service has been celebrated every year in Faringdon since 1980, always on the first Friday in March, rotating around the churches. It starts and finishes in Samoa, taking 38 hr to travel around the world - as the earth rotates a great wave of prayer builds.

In 2025 the service was developed by women in the Cook Islands. The theme was "I made you wonderful", based on the words of Psalm 139, and helped us to recognise that despite our uniqueness we were all created with great care and loving attention. God created us, God knows us, God is with us.

Two services were held in Faringdon, hosted by Blessed Hugh Catholic Church. In total approximately 45 people attended.

The service in 2026 is hosted by United Church, and in 2027 by Baptist Church. It will be All Saints' time to host again in 2028.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN FARINGDON – KATIE FOOT

General

We were pleased to welcome Rev'd Szabina Patel in July when she started her curacy at All Saints'. Caeli Thomas joined FBC in September as their Youth Worker. We were sad, however, to hear that Rev'd Jason Cooke (FUC) would be leaving the area in early 2026.

Tim Gerry (Faringdon Baptist Church) continued as President and Katie Foot (All Saints'), remains Secretary. We are very grateful to Jonathan Mapley (All Saints'), our Treasurer, for continuing his role.

Activities we have variously organised during 2025 have included:

- Monthly columns in The Advertiser magazine (distributed to every household in Faringdon)
- Ash Wednesday prayer service at All Saints'
- Weekly talks during Lent on Muthuraj Swamy's book, "Reconciliation", hosted by our churches
- World Day of Prayer, at Blessed Hugh, prepared by Christian women in the Cook Islands in the South Pacific
- 'Prayers for Peace' at the Friends' Meeting House
- Good Friday service at All Saints'
- Sunrise service on Easter Day on Folly Hill, with about 50 people present, led by Blessed Hugh, followed by a delicious breakfast at Faringdon Baptist Church
- Christian Aid week e-collection and United Songs of Praise at All Saints'
- Big Green Day (stalls included Eco-Church and The Mustard Seed)
- Folly Fest open air service, led by Rev'd Mark Greenwood
- Jenny and Steve Braithwaite kindly hosted a summer lunch in their garden for members of all churches
- International Day of Peace (21 September) was celebrated with prayers in the Market Place
- Activities in All Saints' and on a market stall for the Advent 'Lights On' event and flyers handed out with details of Christmastide services

Faringdon Food Bank

Faringdon Food Bank has been run by Churches Together in Faringdon in partnership with the Town Council. Jeni Summerfield stepped down as chair early in the year and Gill Bolter took over. New Trustees have been appointed and during the year, arrangements were made to set up the Food Bank as a CIO (Charitable Incorporated

PARISH OF GREAT FARINGDON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

ANNUAL REPORTS & ACCOUNTS FOR 2025

Organisation). A Memorandum of Understanding with Churches Together in Faringdon has been prepared so that the Food Bank's Christian ethos is upheld and all Trustees should be actively involved in one of the churches in Faringdon (and at least one of them a minister of one of the churches).

Adele Vincent also left the Town Council (and therefore the Food Bank) and a new manager, Lesley Fugle, was appointed in the autumn. At the CTiF AGM, both Jeni and Adele were given flowers and thanked most gratefully for all their hard work during a particularly difficult period when numbers of clients increased exponentially.

The wonderful volunteers work very effectively together to deliver a caring but efficient service to those in need, but more would be very useful, particularly to help with the weekly shopping. If this is something that you feel you could do, please contact Lesley as soon as possible for more information.

We are extremely grateful for the generous donations both financial and food from members of all the churches, and those who donate at Waitrose and Stanford Co-op. Adele and Lesley also worked very hard accessing grants to help provide foods for us to distribute.

There is a donation box in church by the front door on the first pew in the south aisle so if you're able to offer even one small tin or packet of food a month that will really help us to feed those who are finding life particularly challenging. Alternatively, if you are able and would like to make a financial donation please speak to Jonathan Mapley or note the details - Faringdon Food Bank; sort Code 20-90-91; Acc. No. 53402738.

Mustard Seed

The shop was open all year again, from 9am to 1pm Mondays to Saturdays, and in December we were also able to remain open until 4pm Tuesdays to Saturdays.

The arrangement for ordering books and cards through the *Cornerstone Christian Centre* in Grove is working well. Our grateful thanks to Sarah Shewring, the manager at *Cornerstone*, for being so very helpful.

A stall was held in the Corn Exchange on Faringdon's Big Green Day in June and at the Farmers' Market in October immediately following Fairtrade Fortnight. Blessed Hugh church also has a sale after Mass on the first Sunday of each month. If anyone would like to invite friends to find out more about what we do and have a sale in their home, please contact Katie or Karen.

As ever, grateful thanks to our shop staff and window dressers, as well as to Lois Chell for her hard work keeping the books in order and arranging for the accounts to be audited by Alder Demain Akers free of charge.

Plans are being made to celebrate our 40th anniversary in May 2026 – look out for signs!

Sjoerd Vogt – Chairman

Karen Vogt and Katie Foot – Co-managers

Sanctuary Faringdon

Most of our work during 2025 has been with the asylum seekers. It remains hard work keeping track of who is there, and exactly what help they need. Frances Starr has continued teaching the much-appreciated ESOL lessons at the Friends' Meeting House in Faringdon. Help has been offered by various individuals in all sorts of ways, including assistance with medical, legal and school issues. We were also able to help a few move into their own accommodation once they had received their right to remain. Support from the different churches has also been much appreciated.

Sjoerd Vogt and Katie Foot

If anyone has managed to read thus far and would like to get more involved in any of the work we do across the town, please don't hesitate to contact Tim Gerry (FBC) or me.

Katie Foot - Secretary, Churches Together in Faringdon

GREAT FARINGDON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2025
Statement of financial activities

2024 (All Saints only) £		Notes	General funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total £
	<u>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS</u>						
165,874	Voluntary Income	2a	152,640	-	43,989	-	196,629
	Activities for generating funds		-	-	310	-	310
9,900	Income from Investments	2b	5,199	-	7,184	-	12,382
12,587	Church Activities	2c	12,088	-	-	-	12,088
	Other income	2d	872	-	-	-	872
188,361	TOTAL INCOME		170,798		51,483		222,281
	<u>EXPENDITURE</u>						
-	Raising Funds	3a	-	-	-	-	
	Church Activities						
14,862	- Missionary and Charitable Giving	3b	15,428	-	-	-	15,428
65,691	- Diocesan Parish Share		72,474	-	-	-	72,474
82,386	- Other activities	3c	73,055		57,480		130,535
220	Governance Costs	3d	220	-	-	-	220
163,159	TOTAL EXPENDITURE		161,177	-	57,480	-	218,657
25,202	NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) BEFORE INVESTMENT GAINS/(LOSSES)		9,622		(5,997)		3,624
7,420	NET GAINS ON INVESTMENT ASSETS (on revaluation)	11		(557)	(1,461)	(5,726)	(7,744)
32,623	NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		9,622	(557)	(7,458)	(5,726)	(4,120)
-	TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS		-	-	-	-	-
-	- Move £750 from General Fund to CL Designated		(750)	750		-	-
-						-	-
-						-	-
32,623	NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		8,872	193	(7,458)	(5,726)	(4,120)
826,798	Total funds brought forward 1 January		585,999	13,937	159,079	143,234	902,249
859,421	Total funds carried forward 31 December		594,870	14,130	151,621	137,508	898,129

GREAT FARINGDON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2025
Balance Sheet

2024 (All Saints only)		Notes	General funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total £
£							
	Fixed assets						
465,000	Tangible fixed assets	7	460,000	-	-	-	460,000
245,609	Investment assets	8	-	14,130	86,976	137,508	238,615
<u>710,609</u>	Total fixed assets		<u>460,000</u>	<u>14,130</u>	<u>86,976</u>	<u>137,508</u>	<u>698,615</u>
	Current assets						
0	Stock		-	-	-	-	-
0	Debtors (tax recoverable)	9	-	-	-	-	-
137,684	Short term deposits		116,290		50,745		167,035
11,127	Cash in hand and at bank		18,580	-	13,899	-	32,479
<u>148,812</u>	Total current assets		<u>134,870</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>64,644</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>199,515</u>
	Liabilities(Creditors): amounts falling due within one year						
0	Interest Free Loans		0	-	-	-	0
0	Barber Rooms costs	10	0	-	-	-	0
<u>148,812</u>	Net current assets		<u>134,870</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>64,644</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>199,515</u>
	Liabilities(Creditors): amounts falling due after one year						
0	Interest Free Loans		0	-	-	-	0
<u>859,421</u>			<u>594,870</u>	<u>14,130</u>	<u>151,621</u>	<u>137,508</u>	<u>898,129</u>
	Funds of the church						
	Unrestricted funds						
561,688	General fund		594,870	-	-	-	594,870
13,937	Designated fund	12	-	14,130	-	-	14,130
<u>575,626</u>			<u>594,870</u>	<u>14,130</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>609,001</u>
140,561	Restricted funds	11	-	-	151,621	-	151,621
143,234	Endowment fund	11	-	-	-	137,508	137,508
<u>859,421</u>	Total funds of the church		<u>594,870</u>	<u>14,130</u>	<u>151,621</u>	<u>137,508</u>	<u>898,129</u>
			-	-	-	-	-

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 10 April 2026 and signed on its behalf by:

Maria Jukes
Vicar, All Saints Church

Dr David Wilson
Treasurer, All Saints Church

GREAT FARINGDON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2025

Notes to the accounts

2024 (All Saints only)		2025				
Total funds	2 INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total funds
£		£	£	£	£	£
	2a Voluntary Income					
	Planned Giving:					
82,450	Tax - efficient planned giving (excl. tax)	87,644	-	3,291	-	90,935
23,713	Tax recovered/recoverable	21,974	-	2,912	-	24,885
23,585	Other planned giving (bankers order and payroll)	27,983	-	-	-	27,983
4,575	Collections of loose cash at services	6,382	-	-	-	6,382
	Legacies	-	-	-	-	-
19,595	Children & Families Leader Cont'ns (ODBF & Individuals)	-	-	17,860	-	17,860
	Grants Received towards activities	1,700	-	13,303	-	15,003
	Curate Contributions (ODBF and Individual)	-	-	6,464	-	6,464
	Mission Fund Donations	-	-	-	-	-
368	Little All Sorts Donations	375	-	-	-	375
1,718	Other donations (Gift Aided)	1,795	-	60	-	1,855
9,699	Other donations (Non Gift Aided)	4,788	-	100	-	4,888
170	Wall Safe/Cask etc.	-	-	-	-	-
165,874		152,640	-	43,989	-	196,629
	Activities for generating funds					
	Fetes, Bazaars, Other fund-raising events	-	-	310	-	310
				310		310
	2b Investment Income					
5,244	Deposit accounts (CBF, CAF, Virgin)	3,864	-	2,977	-	6,842
4,656	CBF Investment Account Dividends	1,334	-	4,207	-	5,541
9,900		5,199		7,184		12,382
	2c Incoming resources from charitable activities					
8,871	Fees - weddings, funerals etc	7,801	-	-	-	7,801
3,716	Room Hire	4,287	-	-	-	4,287
12,587		12,088		-		12,088
	2d Other incoming resources					
	Parish Share refunds from Diocese (2025 on)	872	-	-	-	872
		872	-	-	-	872
4	3 EXPENDITURE					
	3a Raising Funds					
0	Stewardship Campaign. Gift Aid Envelopes etc.		-	-	-	-
	3b Missionary and Charitable Giving (see note 6)					
8,877	Overseas Mission, Relief & Aid	8,600	-	-	-	8,600
4,390	Home Missions	6,378	-	-	-	6,378
1,595	Secular Charities	450	-	-	-	450
14,862		15,428		-		15,428
	3c Church Activities					
1,183	Ministry: Clergy Expenses	1,224	-	-	-	1,224
	Curate Costs	5,950	-	6,464	-	12,414
31,779	Children & Families Leader	15,113	-	19,360	-	34,473
288	Other Staff & Expenses	349	-	-	-	349
5,198	Church Cleaning	5,616	-	-	-	5,616
3,187	Heat Light & Water	6,745	-	-	-	6,745
713	Telephone & Wi-Fi	905	-	-	-	905
6,231	Insurance	7,373	-	596	-	7,969
729	Repairs & Maintenance: Organ & Bells	-	-	873	-	873
8,697	Other (mainly Quinquennial work)	536	-	30,187	-	30,723
	Church Development	3,735	-	-	-	3,735
1,944	Cost of church services	3,412	-	-	-	3,412
1,807	Upkeep of Churchyard	1,937	-	-	-	1,937
1,455	Training, Mission & Education	367	-	-	-	367
5,440	Depreciation charge for year (Barber Rooms etc.)	5,000	-	-	-	5,000
	Other expense items	-	-	-	-	-
13,734	Admin, Printing, Stationery, Bank Charges	14,793	-	-	-	14,793
82,386		73,055	-	57,480	-	130,535
	3d Governance Costs					
220	Audit fees, legal advice, PCC meetings	220	-	-	-	220
4	4 STAFF COSTS					
46,117	Wages & Salaries	51,912				
4	Average no. of employees	3				

During the year the PCC employed a Children and Families leader, an administrator and a cleaner.
There were no P11D employee benefits paid to any staff in this, or previous, years

GREAT FARINGDON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2025

Notes to the accounts

5 Trustee remuneration and expenses - related parties

No members of the PCC received any remuneration for their work on the PCC. The clergy, who are ex officio members do receive a stipend but are not remunerated for their service on the PCC. No PCC members claimed expenses although they would be entitled to claim travel costs for attending meetings.

6 Grants made - grants were made to the following institutions:

Christian Aid	1150.00	CMS	3800.00
Wycliffe Bible Translators	275.00	Royal British Legion	300.00
Adventure Plus	1150.00	IJM	1150.00
Scripture Union	575.00	The Bible Society	575.00
The Children's Society	1150.00	Simeon's Trustees	300.00
Tear Fund	1150.00	Torch Trust	150.00
WATSAN	1150.00	A Rocha	1150.00
Dasel Course Donation	650.00	Anna Chaplaincy	150.00
Faringdon Foodbank (LC Don'n)	278.00	OHCT (LC Don'n)	25.00
RBL (LC Don'n)	100.00	Christian Aid (LC Don'n)	200.00
2024 TOTAL		TOTAL	15428.00
14862.00			

No grants were made to individuals.

7 Tangible fixed assets (all unrestricted)

	Freehold land & buildings £	Fixtures fittings & equipment £	Other £	Total £
Cost or valuation				
At 1 January 2025	500,000	2,200	-	502,200
Additions/Disposals	-	-	-	-
Revaluations	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2025	500,000	2,200	-	502,200
Depreciation				
At 1 January 2025	35,000	2,200	-	37,200
Charge for year	5,000	-	-	5,000
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2025	40,000	2,200	-	42,200
Net book value				
At 1 January 2025	465,000	-	-	465,000
At 31 December 2025	460,000	-	-	460,000

8 Investment assets

Fixed asset investments	£
Carrying (market) value on 1 January 2025	245,609
Add additions at cost/value	-
Less disposals at carrying value	-
Net gain/(loss) on revaluation	(6,994)
Market Value - 31st December 2025	238,615

9 Debtors and prepayments (no amounts were due in more than one year)

Amounts falling due within one year
2,025
2024
£
£
0

Accrued income - tax refund due

-

10 Creditors and accruals (no amounts were due in more than one year)

Amounts falling due within one year
2,025
2024
£
£
0
0

Accruals

-

11 Endowment and restricted funds

	Fund balances b/f £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Fund balances c/f £
Endowment funds					
Craven/Rawlings/John Wright (Inv A/C)	22,175	-	-	886	21,288
Haines/Spinage (Inv A/C)	3,527	-	-	141	3,386
Celia Walker Fund (Inv A/C)	117,533	-	-	4,699	112,834
	143,234	-	-	5,726	137,508
Restricted funds					
Chamberlain (Organ Fund) (Invest)	69,038	0	0.00	806	68,232.56
Chamberlain (Organ Fund) (Deposit)	618	20.94	625	-	13.59
Celia Walker Fund (Deposit)	18,138	4,617	8,000	-	14,754.71
Celia Walker Fund (Invest)	15,152	0	-	606	14,546.32
Bell Ringers Fund (Deposit)	4,545	377	248	-	4,674.00
Fabric Fund (Quinquennial grants etc.)	9,246	418	-	0	9,663.94
Accrual for tax refund	0	-	-	-	0.00
Mission Fund (Deposit)	18,456	835	-	-	19,291.59
Boffin (Bells, clock, chimes) (Inv)	4,247	-	-	50	4,197.54
Boffin (Bells, clock, chimes) (Deposit)	1,120	51	-	-	1,170.89
Friends of St Mary's (Current)	6,862	-	5,686	-	1,176.31
Friends of St Mary's (Deposit)	11,656	2,243	-	-	13,899.12
	140,561	8,562	14,559	1,461	151,620.58

12 Designated Funds

	£	£	£	£	£
Coach Lane Investment Fund	13,937	750	-	557	14,130

Independent Examiner's Report to the Great Faringdon Parochial Church Council

I have examined the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2025 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet and related notes.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC (Charity trustees) and Independent Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

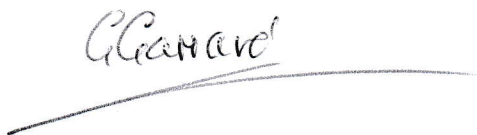
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention

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

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or

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

Gill Garrard
20th April 2026
Independent Examiner
3 Stanford Road
Faringdon
Oxon SN7 7AQ



Accounts

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC) OF ALL SAINTS' FARINGDON

PCC ANNUAL REPORTS & ACCOUNTS FOR 2024

AIMS & PURPOSES:

All Saints' PCC is responsible, in co-operation with the Vicar, for promoting the whole mission of the Church (pastoral, evangelistic and social) within the ecclesiastical parish, and for maintaining the fabric of All Saints' Church and Coach Lane cemetery.

The PCC of All Saints' Faringdon is a corporate body established by the Church of England and operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The PCC exceeds the limits for exception from registering with the Charity Commission and is therefore registered under the name of "The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of All Saints' Faringdon" (Charity No. 1134401).

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. The membership of the PCC consists of the Vicar, Licensed Lay Ministers, Churchwardens, Deanery Synod representatives and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the church. All those who are members of our congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC is aware of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in "The advancement of Religion for the Public Benefit" and has regard to it in the administration of the parish.

The PCC believes that, by fulfilling its responsibility to work together with the Vicar and co-operating in all matters of concern and importance for the promotion of the whole mission of the Church, it provides a benefit to the public, both to individuals and to society as a whole, by: providing resources and facilities for public worship, pastoral care and spiritual, moral and intellectual development, both to its members and for anyone who wishes to benefit from what the church offers; promoting Christian values and the service by members of the church to their communities.

To facilitate this work, it is important that we also maintain the fabric of both All Saints' Church and the Barber Rooms.

This review summarises the life of All Saints' church during the calendar year 2024 and highlights many events and activities. Again, this year, those responsible for many of the church's activities have been invited to contribute.

The PCC met 9 times during 2024, with an average attendance of 17. During the year the following served as members of the PCC, ex-officio, elected or invited to attend.

EX OFFICIO MEMBERS:

Vicar	Rev'd Maria Jukes
Licensed Lay Ministers	Graham Weller Robert Slade
Church Wardens	Linda Ritchie Mark Jackson
Deanery Synod Reps	Peter Foot John Seedell Alice Voaden

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ELECTED MEMBERS (MEMBERS ARE ELECTED FOR THREE YEARS)

Until APCM 2025	Immy Newcome Janet Deane Katie Foot Tim Vinall
Until APCM 2026	Alice Voaden Chris Horley Christopher Raybone Wendy Tynan
Until APCM 2027	Chris Speller David Wilson Isobel Weller Jim McGowan
Children & Families Leader (Co-opted)	Josey Speller
Safeguarding	Isobel Weller
Hon Treasurer	David Wilson
Hon Secretary	Aimee Husebo

VICAR'S REPORT

Remembering back to writing this report last year, I am struck by both how quickly this last year feels to have gone, but also how much has happened during it. For me, 2024 has felt like a year when patterns and activities have settled down, and this has enabled more long-term planning to begin.

Much of what has happened in the year has been covered in the excellent report from the wardens and others who have contributed to our annual report, I commend all of these to you and would encourage you to read through for a holistic view of the mission and ministry that has taken place during an exciting and active 2024. Alongside these particular activities and events, we have sustained the existing service pattern with 9am BCP Holy Communion every Sunday and a 10.30am service (with a mixture of All Age, Holy Communion, and our Third Sunday service, a service of the Word), seasonal services, our monthly prayer meeting continues on Zoom, and Morning Prayer on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday in All Saints', Tuesday in Little Coxwell, and Friday morning prayer on Zoom. In all these things I am extremely grateful to the ministry team for their support and contribution to All Saints' as well as lay leaders who have contributed much to the prayer life of the church. I think the gift of having different voices and experiences to draw from is something which contributes greatly to our worshipping life, and the support of Rev'd David Pickering alongside the retired clergy with PTO: Rev'd Chris Etherton, Rev'd Tim Hewes, Rev'd Dick Whittington, Rev'd Barbara Mapley, Rev'd Paul Winchester, lay minister Graham Weller, and Children & Families Leader Josey Speller. We all continue to be blessed by their ministry amongst us.

Alongside our regular services and seasonal events, a lot of time and energy has also been spent on larger, more long-term projects and plans, and I will focus my report on a few of these.

Reordering Project

Jim McGowan has written a report which outlines what has happened during the year in relation to plans for reordering. Much of the work has been considering how our building might be adapted to improve accessibility, enable flexibility in worship, and facilitate engagement with and mission to our community.

I want to say a massive thank you to Jim for all his hard work, excellent leadership, and diligence during this time; also, thanks to the rest of the subcommittee whose engagement and expertise have helped enormously. It feels like such an exciting project that has the potential to resource the mission and ministry here in a very significant way, and I look forward to seeing plans become more tangible during 2025 as we begin work closer together with an architect and the DAC. During this process we will take some time for wider consultation, and your engagement in this would be really helpful.

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Parish Boundary

During 2024 it came to light that there was some discrepancy between our legal structures as a parish and how we are currently operating across All Saints' and St Mary's. In summary: we are legally one parish, but in many ways operate as if we were two. PCC considered options available to us, and the preference of both St Mary's and All Saints' PCCs were to first explore making changes to how we operate to move these in-line with being a single parish.

You will already have seen one of these adjustments in how we have, this year, created a joint electoral roll for both All Saints' and St Mary's. At our APCM we will seek to make some further changes, one being that the APCM itself will be a joint one for the whole of the parish (incorporating both Faringdon and Little Coxwell), and we will also hope to elect churchwardens and deputy churchwardens responsible for both churches during our meeting of parishioners. I hope that these changes will enable us to retain some autonomy of both worshipping communities, but also that there will be opportunities where we can increase collaboration to support the mission and ministry in both Faringdon and Little Coxwell – now and in the future.

Priorities for Mission and Ministry

In 2024 the PCC undertook some work thinking about how God might be calling our church in this season. As we have settled into a new normal following the pandemic, gradually gotten used to the new vicar... and have welcomed a substantial number of new people to our church community, it felt like a good time to notice where God has been at work, where we feel called to do new things or change some of the things we are already doing, as well as noticing all those things we are already doing that feel important to continue and resource well.

Again, this is a longer process and you will hear more about this during 2025, but the PCC agreed that three areas feel important to focus on: the importance of every person in our worshipping community (everyone matters), to encourage people in their discipleship (growing in faith), and to have a view of mission as a whole-life calling (sharing our faith in our everyday lives).

I do not think that a mission statement or a Mission Action Plan is the most important thing in the world; but I do think they can be helpful in noticing some of what feels significant in our lives together and how God is at work in our midst. It is good to take the time to notice, and also good to have a sense of anticipation as we seek to catch a glimpse of God at work here in Faringdon and Little Coxwell and how we are called to take part. My hope is that we will do some wider work on this over the coming year, initially on "Sharing our faith in our everyday lives", but then also some wider discernment that will help us pen down our Priorities for Mission and Ministry in this next season.

Reflecting back on a busy and exciting year, I am so conscious of the many people who have been making everything possible during this time. The reality is that there are just too many to mention, but please know that however you are contributing to and supporting the mission and ministry in Little Coxwell or Faringdon I am profoundly grateful and very aware that we can do what we do because of your generosity.

I do particularly want to say thank you to our fabulous wardens though, Mark and Linda, and Douglas and Pippa; you all do such an amazing job, and I personally appreciate your support, dedication, gifts and skills enormously.

I also am so thankful for Josey and all she brings to our church. It has been amazing to see so many young people, families, and children join us over the past few years and we all appreciate immensely the work you have done to make them feel welcome and able to grow in their faith.

In the beginning of 2024, we also had Jilly join our staff team. I realise that much of what Jilly does is behind the scenes, but if you receive the Newsletter, have noticed the tidy vestry, or enjoyed a well organised Summer Tea – know that Jilly will have had a hand in all these things and much, much more.

We also had some additions to our ministry team during the year. Julie Slade became an authorised preacher, and we are in the process of being licensed with Anna Chaplaincy to resource her pastoral ministry to the elderly. Bob Slade has transferred his license to Oxford diocese as he and Julie moved to Faringdon and is now able to both take some services and preach. Chris Raybone has also become an authorized preacher, and we look forward to seeing his ministry grow. Their support to our ministry team will enable us to minister more effectively and I am excited to see how this develops over the coming years.

As we look forward to 2025, we look forward to welcoming Szabina Patel to be our curate and her family as they join our worshipping community, please do pray for them as they prepare for their move here in the coming months.

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May we all look back to all God has done with thankful hearts, forward with anticipation towards all that is yet to come, as we seek to continue to grow in God's love - and may He inspire us to share it faithfully in this place and time.

Maria Jukes

FINANCIAL REVIEW FOR 2024 – DAVID WILSON

Total receipts on unrestricted funds were £144,573 of which £106,035 was unrestricted planned voluntary donations, and a further £22,182 was from Gift Aid.

Restricted income and donations (including gift aid) of £21,301 were also received. Of this, £13,595 is a grant from the ODBF, covering part of the cost of our Children & Families Leader Josey Speller.

No legacies were received in the year.

£133,278 was spent from unrestricted funds to promote the whole mission of the church within the parish and beyond. Our diocesan parish share of £67,203 was paid in full (£65,691 after rebates received for paying by direct debit and because the deanery share for the first half of the year was paid in full before the end of July). Donations to missions and charities of £14,862 were made.

Overall funds increased by £32,623 during the year. There was an increase in the General Fund of £26,712. Designated, Restricted and Endowment funds also all increased slightly in value due to increases in the value of funds invested in the stock market.

PCC RESERVES POLICY – DAVID WILSON

The PCC needs to hold reserves as it has fixed (and usually rising) expenditure each year to cover expenditure such as Parish Share, Parochial expenses, Insurance, Repairs and Maintenance, Gas/Electricity/Water to support church services with no guaranteed income.

The risk of income not arising each year to cover these core expenditure items is small (there are a reasonable number of committed/planned givers who provide a good base level of income each year).

The PCC believes that reserves amounting to between three and six months of annual expenditure on the items above is reasonable to cater for a downturn in income as well as providing an appropriate level of funds to cover expected buildings expenditure. This would equate to between £33,500 and £67,000 on 2024 general expenditure.

The PCC currently has reserves (unrestricted and designated) that exceed this range. However, given expected additional costs in 2025 and beyond (including paying housing for a curate from June 2025 and funding our Children & Families work fully from October 2025), which is forecast to lead to deficit budgets for the next 3 years, the PCC is comfortable with this position.

It remains our policy to invest the short-term investment fund balances with the CCLA Church of England Deposit Fund, and the remaining longer-term investments in the CCLA Church of England Investment Fund.

CHURCH FABRIC REPORT – JIM MCGOWAN

Much of the Fabric Group's activity in 2024 involved preparatory work to be completed after the end of the year. In 2024 we received permission to go ahead with replastering and redecorating repairs in the baptistery, with this work only being completed in the first months of 2025. Another change we have been working on is the installation of a secure, robust bicycle rack outside the main entrance to the Barber Rooms; the initial idea for this came from our Energy Audit (Oct 2023) and we have since received a £1,000 "decarbonisation" grant from the government towards the cost of this – but we are still awaiting planning permission before we can go ahead and install the bicycle rack.

Activities that were completed during the year were the installation (by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission) of two new commemorative headstones in the churchyard for World War I soldiers, upgrades to our lightning protection system and replacing the broken drain at the foot of the church path. In addition, we have also had some very productive and enjoyable groups working on activities like church polishing, decluttering, and clearing the drainage trench around the church.

Thank you to everyone who has been involved in looking after the fabric of our buildings over the past year – for looking after the heating system, organising regular maintenance and servicing, changing inaccessible light bulbs, participating in working parties, removing weeds and cutting back shrubs, polishing & cleaning, sorting out repair

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jobs, putting out the bins and everything else! We are extremely grateful for all that you do to look after our wonderful buildings.

CHURCH REORDERING PROJECT – JIM MCGOWAN

The Reordering Strategic Planning Group started work early in 2024; the group is made up of Rev'd Maria Jukes, Mark Jackson, Dave Wilson, Alice Voaden, Jonathan Mapley, and Jim McGowan. The diocese has produced some excellent guidance notes on how to work through the reordering process and we have paid careful attention to these notes. In addition, we invited Rev'd Charles Chadwick, the Parish Development Adviser, to come and share his thoughts on how we should approach reordering.

Following these discussions, we have started to write the two key documents required at this stage of the process – the Statement of Need (40+ pages) and the Statement of Significance (25+ pages). Between them, these documents describe the church building as it is and explain about its history, development, and key features, as well as provide details on the church community and our parish (we have used a lot of the information collected in 2023 for the Parish Profile), our vision and some of the constraints that we are currently facing in our buildings. We will continue to develop and expand these documents as we go further through the reordering process.

We have begun discussions with the DAC (Diocesan Advisory Committee) who will need to approve our proposals. The group has also reviewed architects who have completed similar work on churches in our local area in recent years; following this review, the PCC have selected Christian Randall from Conservation Architects (based in Wantage) as our preferred architect for the project.

The next step – in consultation with both the Reordering Group and the DAC – will be for Christian to develop more detailed proposals. These proposals will then be the subject of a consultation process involving the PCC, the church family, and the wider community in Faringdon.

COACH LANE CEMETERY – JIM MCGOWAN

The Coach Lane Churchyard group was set up by the PCC at the beginning of 2024. The two key issues the group has had to address are the very limited space available for full body burials and, secondly, ensuring that the churchyard regulations are complied with.

Although an investigation into the further expansion of the Coach Lane churchyard concluded that this was not a realistic possibility, we agreed that the churchyard could still be used for future generations by creating an area reserved for the interment of ashes. The PCC has approved this approach, and the designated area has been marked out with stakes. We are now looking at the most appropriate way to develop a garden of remembrance in this area of the churchyard; this will require a faculty application over the next year.

On the issue of compliance with churchyard regulations, we have reviewed our use of bins to try and ensure that members of the public are only using the correct bins and as part of this have introduced a secure bin store. We have still to see the full impact of these measures, but we are optimistic that they will simplify the management of our bins. In a sensitive and considerate way, we have also sought to reduce the number of unapproved ornaments.

In terms of regular maintenance, we continue to be extremely grateful to Wendy Tynan who does a huge amount of work at Coach Lane throughout the year – Wendy also keeps a watchful eye on the state of the area, and this is invaluable. We have continued to build on our good relationships with our two main contractors – Gentle Giant Gardening and Sorbus.

Finally, Mark Ritchie has carried out a very thorough survey of the many ash trees at Coach Lane (including tagging them all); as well as helping to identify what work is required immediately, this survey will provide an excellent baseline for monitoring the spread of ash dieback disease.

DEANERY OF THE VALE OF THE WHITE HORSE – PETER FOOT

Deaneries within the Church of England are somewhat curious beasts. Sometimes, they seem to act as the Diocese's attack dog in the matter of collecting Parish Share. At others, they operate as an extension of the Deanery Chapter, or as opportunities to try out new ideas on behalf of the diocese.

In the Vale of the White Horse, the Deanery seeks to be a two-way mechanism linking the needs of the parishes, especially the rural ones, to the episcopal authority often needed to meet those needs. The most regular and obvious way this is done is through prayer: prayer guidance is sent out each Sunday and, each Wednesday at 07.30 am, a group meets on Zoom, to bring before God the needs of the Parishes that make up the Deanery. Everyone holding an office in any of the 27 churches is specifically named as part of the sequential prayers for each of the six benefices.

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If you would like to receive the prayer guidance, please contact Peter Foot. The interests of the Dorchester Area and Oxford Diocese are always held in prayer, as are the wider concerns and challenges to the Church of England, the Anglican Communion and the wider Church across the world.

A year ago, Bishop Steven charged every deanery to give more attention to children and young people (CYP). Our Deanery is tackling this in two ways. Firstly, work continues at Faringdon Community College, under the wider auspices of the Cambrian Learning Trust, to establish a School Chaplain who will be able to serve the majority of school-aged children in the Deanery. Secondly, a working group has been established to explore how best to give more support to CYP in churches and schools (only All Saints' Faringdon, is blessed with a Children & Families Leader). In parallel with this effort, the Deanery will be reminding the diocese that – among other things - issues of loneliness, isolation, ill health in the elderly, transport problems, food banks and ministry to, and inclusion of, the poor cannot be sidelined by this new priority.

SAFEGUARDING – ISOBEL WELLER

We continue our work at All Saints' to do our utmost to ensure that our church is a safe place for all. Those most directly involved with safeguarding have met bi-monthly to discuss the operational aspects, and this has been very helpful in keeping up to date with diocesan and legal requirements for training and compliance as a PCC.

Jilly Strongman, our Church Administrator, is the DBS Recruiter/Verifier and has assisted with people's online training where needed, which has been hugely valuable.

Josey Speller, the Children & Families Leader, oversees the different children's groups and liaises with Maria (as incumbent) and Isobel (as Parish Safeguarding Officer) as necessary, ensuring amongst other things that the safer recruitment procedures are carried out for all new volunteers. Linda Ritchie, as Churchwarden, provides technical and other support to us all.

The Safeguarding Dashboard, provided by the diocese, is well embedded as a tool for us to refer to in these meetings. It clarifies the steps required to work towards the safest possible environment and gives links to the latest documentation. From this we can generate an action plan, which is shared with the PCC at most meetings, where safeguarding is a standing item on the agenda. The Dashboard has now been supplemented by the Safeguarding Hub, which is tailored to the specific DBS and training requirements for members of All Saints', and is proving to be a useful resource, especially as new volunteers come on board.

There have also been some useful opportunities for networking via webinars and Zoom meetings on different aspects of safeguarding, which enables us to keep our knowledge current and provide peer support.

We have responded to a small but not insignificant number of concerns (children and adults) raised over the past year, involving the diocese and external agencies where necessary.

CHURCH WARDEN REVIEW OF THE YEAR 2024 – LINDA RITCHIE & MARK JACKSON

Yet another busy year in the life of All Saints' church Faringdon.

In January 2024 Maria had been in post for six months. Now settled well into the post she set to the task of bringing new initiatives to the church in various new and imaginative ways.

The year kicked off in January with a new ministry called The Bereavement Journey. A six-week course designed to provide help to those who have been bereaved at any point in life. It was well received by seventeen people. A separate report will be provided.

On 7 April we held a welcome tea for those who had joined our church during the previous year and approximately thirty people attended.

Working with other churches in Faringdon, we held an ecumenical prayer service on Ash Wednesday, Reflections by the cross on Good Friday, and we provided breakfast for those who had attended the ecumenical service at dawn on Folly Hill on Easter day.

On Saturday 11 May we held a Sanctuary Day and Rev'd Matthew Grayshon from ReSource led us in a time of discussion and reflection on the 'woman at the well' from John chapter 4.

15 May saw the start of a new style men's group where we met for a meal at The Viceroy Indian restaurant, and a couple of months later we enjoyed a Chinese banquet at the top of Faringdon's Folly tower. Twelve men joined on both occasions.

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A Civic service was held in April after a one-year break and a special service for the 100-year anniversary of the Royal British legion group in Faringdon was held in June. Also in June, the PCC hosted the annual Strawberry Tea and in December the advent tea for those living alone in our community. In October we held our Harvest Festival bring and share lunch.

For the FollyFest weekend in July, we hosted the Teddy Bear zip wire challenge, church and bell tower guided tours and some FollyFest activities inside the church, and outside on the Sunday, amid unusually good weather, we joined the ecumenical Sunday morning service. For the first time since COVID, there has been a team of volunteers who have opened the church on some Saturdays and Sundays to welcome visitors outside service times. The dates when we have opened have usually been when there are other activities in the town such as FollyFest.

Our new monthly community cafe started in June and has been steadily growing in numbers.

In July, Maria and several of us went off camping to the New Wine Christian conference in Shepton Mallet and were blessed not only in a spiritual way, but also with fine sunny weather.

Another new initiative happened in early August with the introduction of a full-size birthing pool! On Saturday 3 August Bishop Gavin came to All Saints' and six people were baptised by full immersion and six were confirmed. We enjoyed a bring and share meal in the Barber Rooms afterwards.

In mid-October, we ran the Alpha course for those seeking answers to the questions of life. The course ran on eight consecutive Tuesday evenings plus a Saturday morning. Grateful thanks go to all those who prepared a delicious meal on those evenings.

The church was packed to capacity for the Remembrance service on 10 November and again on 2 December for the NSPCC carol service.

The Faringdon Christmas 'lights on' happened on 30 November and this year along with other churches in Faringdon we had a stall in the Market Place where fun and games were available to all. Not only the children, but some adults appeared to be having just as much if not more fun. This year we also joined in the great lights switch on by floodlighting All Saints' church with newly installed LED lights and an illuminated star atop the tower roof.

Christmas celebrations were well attended with Messy Christmas on December 1st, carols by candlelight on the 15th, the Christingle service was brought forward this year to before Christmas Day on the 21st and the usual midnight communion was held on the 24th.

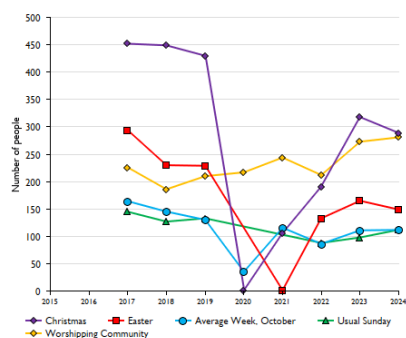
Towards the end of the year, we were delighted that Dr Dan Butcher was able to hold four sessions to train mental health first-aiders. Twelve members of our congregation took part.

Prayer ministry during Sunday morning services when communion is celebrated was restarted. A team of two is available for personal prayer in the Littleworth Aisle during communion and after the service.

Earlier in the year we were pleased to appoint Jilly Strongman as office manager. She quickly got to grips with dealing with all current admin tasks and has organised piles of historical documents.

We continue to see new faces in our services and people making their home with us. Here are some figures as reported to the diocese.

1. Attendance Summary



	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Christmas	-	-	451	448	429	0	105	190	317	288
Easter	-	-	293	229	228	-	0	132	164	148
Average Week, October	-	-	163	144	129	34	115	85	110	111
Usual Sunday	-	-	144	126	132	-	-	87	97	111
Worshipping Community	-	-	225	185	209	216	243	211	272	280

N.B. Because of the disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, churches were not asked to report their Usual Sunday attendance for 2020 or 2021, or their Easter attendance for 2020

- Christmas: Christmas Eve & Christmas Day;
- Easter: Easter Eve & Easter Day;
- Average week, October: includes Sunday and midweek church services & fresh expressions in October but excludes attendance at services for schools;

During the year, we grieved the loss of Lyn Oliver, Simon Pakeman, and Cleve Gibson.

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The Wardens would like to thank all those who serve in any way: Josey, Jilly, Caroline, the bell-ringers, welcomers, vergers, readers, intercessors, the audio/visual team, those who arrange the flowers, the music group, the kitchen team, those who help with children and youth, the church opening team. Also, we thank the retired clergy and LLMs for their continued support and the many others who give their time and energy as needed – not least Maria and Richard. It would take too long to mention everyone by name but rest assured, we do appreciate every single one of you and all that you do to help towards the ministry of our church.

ACTIVITIES

CHILDREN & FAMILIES LEADER REPORT – JOSEY SPELLER

This is my third year in this role, and it has been great to reflect on how the work has developed and grown.

Little All Sorts

This is All Saints' group for babies and their parents and carers meeting on Monday mornings in term time for play, craft, refreshments, and a bible story.

During this year numbers have been good, albeit up and down some weeks. The families all enjoy themselves, getting to know the team, and the other families. We have a mix of parents, grandparents, and carers and they are very supportive of each other. It is lovely to see the families develop their friendships, and they clearly continue this outside of the group.

Some of the families have joined in with other activities we've put on at church and it would be good to be able to continue this work further.

I am so grateful for the team; they are truly wonderful and make the group a real joy. I wish to thank them formally for all that they do and the support they provide to me and the families we welcome into Little All Sorts. There is always room for more on the team so if you can help once a month, please do speak to me.

Junior Saints

We have a great team of leaders with Joanne, Jo, Helen and Immy – I wish to formally thank them for their support and leadership in 2024. Isobel Weller has also been part of the team covering sessions which was wonderful. Several people have commented throughout the year that it feels like the number of children have grown and it is an encouragement to them. There are more children coming regularly and it's been great to welcome a couple of new families to the church and Junior Saints.

We have been using Roots to plan the teaching most weeks and I still aim to study the same as the adults to help with our intergenerational offering. There are some children who attend the same school and know each other well but it's been good to see other friendships also develop.

The all-age slots are now a regular fixture and work well at introducing a theme at the beginning of the services. I try to vary them as I know that not everyone enjoys certain aspects of them. My aim in these slots is that they are a way to encourage conversations between different ages and in a way that is accessible for all.

If you would like to talk about becoming a leader with the children, please do speak to me. The children really are a delight to teach and be with on a Sunday morning.

Youth

Following a couple of trial sessions in the summer term, we began a new group for young people on a Sunday morning. Sunday Youth meet on the 2nd and 4th Sundays – whenever there is a communion service. We decided on this pattern to enable the young people to be in church for the all-age service so that all ages can worship together. We also wanted the young people to remain in church on the third Sundays as these are hoped to be more accessible and we think it important for the young people to experience 'normal' church life too.

There is a brilliant new team of Richard, Kelvin & Rachel, Ronke, and James who take turns in leading. The numbers are often small, and the young people don't know each other very well so we're working on developing relationships. The team have great plans and ideas on how we can develop the work further and encourage the young people on their walk of faith.

Schools

The schools continue to develop. We have a closer link with The Elms, and they have approached us to visit the church at Christmas and Easter. These trips have been a great success, and the children really enjoyed themselves.

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It is my hope that these will continue throughout the year. I'm still trying to make connections with Folly View but this hasn't proved as successful in 2024.

I had what felt like a positive meeting at FCC about how Maria and I could do something in the school but nothing came of it. We would still be keen to go into the school regularly, especially as more and more of the young people attending church also go to FCC.

Other Activities

This year we were able to run Messy Nativity and Messy Easter again which was a success, especially as there was some crossover from Little All Sorts. Other thanks must go to my husband Chris and his ever willingness to dress up at Christmas – this year he literally was a Star! We also added Messy Summer to the calendar this year. A great way for families to explore nature in our churchyard – thanks to Mark Ritchie – and enjoy food and games together – thanks to Maria and Richard for opening their garden. It was a joy to see the families together – both those from Junior Saints and Little All Sorts.

It was good to be involved again in FollyFest this summer. The teddy bear zipwire was even longer this year so the teddies needed to be even more daring. The team was slightly smaller this year, which highlighted the importance of needing a larger team of volunteers for the larger events we host for the town – please do consider helping if you can next year.

The NSPCC carols was a great start to Christmas and good that Maria and I were able to be more intentional with our input. Moving the Christingle service to before Christmas worked well with great attendance from families and all ages. To engage with families in the new year a games/quiz was held but attendance was low due to the time of year. New for this year was a stall at Festive Faringdon. This was a great opportunity with churches together to be a presence at the lights switch on. It was a slow start but as we got nearer to the lights switch on, more people came along for conversation, spot the star and an advent spinner and electric buzzer game.

Other highlights from the year include ice-cream Sunday, working with the flower guild to create the Creationtide display. The children enjoyed seeing it grow and develop, as did the wider congregation.

Finally, I wish to thank Maria, my support group, the church wardens, Jilly and the whole church, for all the prayer and encouragement you give to me personally and the children and families in All Saints'.

ECO CHURCH GROUP – PETER FOOT

The Eco Church Group is very grateful to the PCC for enabling it to be active as a subcommittee in the context of the climate emergency that is part of our 'here and now' as Christians. Since the middle of 2024 it has been busy.

In May, as we all know, All Saints' Church was given a Silver Award by A Rocha/Eco Church, reflecting the improvements and developments since the Bronze award in December 2022, including a full Energy Audit. In June, our Eco Church Group had a display table at the Corn Exchange as part of the council-led Great Big Green Day. The aim of our display was to draw attention to the many riches of the churchyard surrounding the church itself. The table drew a lot of attention, not least an excellent collection of small mammal skulls for children (and others) to guess their animal origin. Display boards and QR codes were used in the churchyard to direct attention gently from the natural world to the Creator of it all.

In doing the preparatory research for the Great Big Green Day, it was discovered that our churchyard has been the subject of a number of scientific surveys, the results of which are easily accessible: The Eco Group want to be able to recommend to the PCC the very best way to manage the churchyard, remembering its centuries-old nature and the need to conserve, protect and nurture this piece of 'God's own acre'. Such work needs to be coordinated with the Town Council which has overall responsibility for care and maintenance: conversations have begun already, and we are fortunate in that the Council is sympathetic and very interested in discussing the next stage for 2025.

That stage began in September last year when representatives of the national Lichen Society came to survey the number and types of lichen in our churchyard. This was followed in October by a Zoom meeting with Professor Crawley, of Imperial College, London, who has visited our churchyard on a number of occasions as part of his ongoing scientific interest in the churchyards on the Ridgeway and the Golden Ridge. He will follow up his very rich briefing to members of the Eco Church Group with an actual visit in Spring 2025. This will provide the Group with the basis for recommendations to the PCC of the best steps forward to take, in conjunction with the Council. This will ensure the most respectful, well-informed and practical ways of managing the geology, botany and biology for which collectively we are the heirs.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE – JOHN SEDELL

The PCC arranged 2 events in 2024:

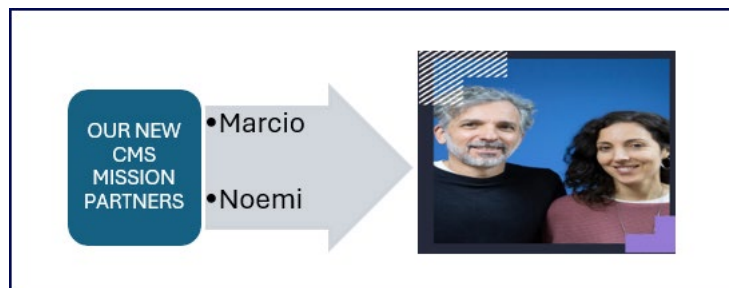
1. Summer Afternoon Tea on the 22nd of June. As usual PCC members worked together with several members of the congregation to arrange a tea for people who live alone. We held the event in the Barber rooms and tea was enjoyed by over 50 people (including helpers). It was a great afternoon enjoyed by everyone involved. Our thanks go to helpers and guests alike who made a delightful afternoon.
2. Christmas Tea Party was held on the 25th of November, the much enjoyed annual event was well attended including members of PCC and volunteers from the congregation who equally enjoyed the festivities. Everyone enjoyed the carol singing accompanied by the piano. A special mention must be made of Maxine Everitt who stepped in to coordinate things due to my indisposition. The social committee thank the PCC for their support in this outreach to the community and look forward to forthcoming events in 2025.

CHURCH MISSION PARTNERS – JOHN SEDELL

This report usually concentrates on the work of our mission partners through CMS, and it is right to include the work of CMS being the Church of England mission society. However, as we spend about 10% of our income on funding mission activities, we will include some of those in this report along with mentioning the Link Diocese around the world in which the Diocese of Oxford engage.

Our CMS link partners are **Noemi and Marcio Ciechanovicz**, from Sao Paulo, Brazil. They work in an area called DU Park in a suburb of Sao Paulo, it is a community where people who are homeless, drug addicts and many children frequent. Their mission is to bring Jesus to them, and this is done in many ways.

We look forward to hearing from them as they visit us in January 2025.



You can find more information about Marcio and Noemi on the CMS notice board on the way out to the Barber Rooms where we also display letters from them.

At All Saints' we support projects bringing the gospel to anyone who hasn't heard the good news. This means that we support overseas mission, environmental and local community projects. Each month we aim to celebrate the work of projects in our 'Mission of the Month'

Within our Diocese we maintain links with partner Diocese in South Africa, India, Sweden the Mothers Union and Jamaica and the Cayman Islands. Several of these Diocese are long established links and we have learned the value of sharing the road with Christ.

Maria (our Vicar) took the chair of the Diocesan link with Vaxjo in Sweden from January 2025.

Please pray for all of these projects, and partners that we may be guided seeking God's will in our relationships with the people of God's Kingdom.

PRAYERS ON FRIDAY – HELEN & MARK JACKSON

Prayers on a Friday 7.40 – 8.30am by Zoom in 2024

This group has been going for over 40 years, started by the Scott Browns when they moved to Faringdon. It has been taking place via Zoom since the beginning of lockdown. The Zoom link is published in the church newsletter

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every week. It is open to anyone who would like to pray for any situation both local and international. Each meeting starts with a passage of Scripture and then prayers follow as people feel led. There is no compulsion to pray out loud and any and every topic for intercessory prayer is acceptable. Newcomers are welcome so feel free to log on one Friday morning and see whether you want to come back!

MONTHLY PRAYER MEETING – MARIA JUKES

The monthly prayer meeting has continued via Zoom throughout the year on the first Wednesday of the month at 8pm for about 30mins. Prayer points are issued via the Newsletter, and the meeting begins with a gathered time of reflection before breaking into smaller groups for a time of open prayer.

The prayer meeting is important to continually hold the mission and ministry in the church in prayer, as well as having the opportunity to intercede for our world together. It has been encouraging to see a committed regular attendance to this, normally of around 12 people. Anyone able to join us would be warmly welcomed.

ALPHA COURSE – HELEN & MARK JACKSON

Alpha started on October 8, 2024, as an 8-week course meeting every Tuesday evening from 7pm to 9.15pm and a Saturday Holy Spirit morning on November 16.

The format of the evening is sharing a meal together, watching the Alpha film, followed by a discussion of the content of the film (we give everyone an Alpha manual and that covers the content of each film). The Holy Spirit morning gives more time for discussion and an opportunity to receive personal prayer. We are very grateful to everyone who volunteered to cook a meal for us all and wash up afterwards. We started as a group of 12, most of whom came through personal invitation, and ended up a core group of 8. We were delighted that two came who had attended the Bereavement Journey in the January. It is always a privilege to participate in people's spiritual journey and we continue to maintain a relationship with those who attended.

THE BEREAVEMENT JOURNEY (TBJ) – HELEN JACKSON

All Saints' Faringdon ran the bereavement journey for the first time in January 2024. A group of people had done TBJ webinar training and safeguarding training, and a home group had done the course together the previous year in preparation.

It is a 6 or 7-week course for people who have been bereaved at any time. The 7th week is an optional session on faith related questions. The first 6 weeks are about grief and bereavement in general and therefore open to people of any faith or none. The course was advertised through the White Horse Medical Practice and online via Sobell House and other bereavement services and of the people who came half were not connected with All Saints' before. It was also advertised at the All Souls' service the previous November. People who have held relatives' funerals at the church are invited to the All Souls' service. We ran two groups with a total of 17 participants and 8 helpers plus a qualified on-call counsellor. Feedback was very positive, and we have maintained contact with those who attended, initially by meeting at the community café in the Pump House Project on a Tuesday morning and subsequently by inviting them to the church community café that meets once a month on a Monday afternoon. Of those who came, two joined the Alpha course in October and a number came to church over the Christmas period.

PRAYER CHAIN – JENI SUMMERFIELD

This is a much-valued aspect of our prayer life at All Saints' with the three strands of the prayer chain continuing to work to uphold those in need before the Lord.

If you wish to make a prayer request you can speak to Maria, the church wardens or any one of the three of us named below. We are all happy to receive an email which is then forwarded to the three prayer chains. If, however, the request is extremely urgent you may make contact by phoning one of us.

If you would like to be on the prayer chain, please let Jeni know and you will be added to one of the three lists.

Jeni Summerfield	240912
Ruth Seedell	242440
Barbara Mapley	615009

FLOWER GUILD – JENI SUMMERFIELD

In 2024 the Flower Guild decorated the church for the main festivals with a mix of fresh and silk flowers and we arranged flowers for a few weddings and funerals.

Now that All Saints' is part of the Eco Church movement we have completely dispensed with floral foam and several members of the group are in touch with the Sustainable Church movement, so we are trying creative ways of decorating the church without using new and unsustainable plastic products.

We are also, wherever possible, using only fresh flowers produced in this country and we hand-picked locally grown flowers for our Harvest decorations in 2024.

In September, we were delighted to work closely with Josey and the children to create a growing display for the Creationtide project, initiated by Maria, leading up to Harvest.

Also, in September several of us went to a Sustainable Church Flower Festival in Long Crendon to learn more about the movement where we were shocked to learn of the ailments suffered mainly by women in South America and Kenya who handle flowers grown for the world markets that are sprayed with toxic chemicals.

We will continue to use a mix of fresh and silk flowers through the year and as we are even fewer in number now it also keeps the workload manageable.

We would love to welcome new members, so if anyone is interested in joining us, please get in touch, come and see what we do and have a go!

COMMUNITY CAFE – JULIE SLADE

The Community Café started in May 2024. In origin, it was a follow-on from the bereavement course that had been run earlier that year. It was conceived as a gathering at which people can choose to meet once a month. It takes place in the Barber Rooms and is open to all. I was asked to coordinate the Café, with the valued assistance of several other volunteers.

It is a real delight to be part of this project. We have had a good number of people gathering from the start, both from within the Church and from outside of it. Recently the local Parkinson's group has also begun joining with us.

A Café session runs from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., with people coming to have a drink and cake, and there is plenty of opportunity to sit and chat and spend time together. On occasion we have offered a craft activity, and there is always a chance to play a board game or to read a newspaper.

HOME GROUPS – ANDREW SARGENT

It's good to be part of All Saints', but nice also to meet in a smaller setting. All Saints' currently has 8 home groups. They are all different. A 'typical' meeting will focus on a Bible passage or follow a course and may include a time of prayer or singing and some social time – but each group sets its own agenda. Those who attend find they value the opportunity to get to know a small group in a way which is not possible in services and to share their faith, experience and questions in a friendly setting. If you're interested, please do ask.

Monday Home Group – Martin & Bridget Adams

Our Monday Homegroup meets fortnightly in Fernham during term-time, and we have 8 regular members. During this year, we very much enjoyed the Church of England 'Everyday Faith' guide. The aim is to help every follower of Jesus to live out their faith in everyday life. It has 21 reflections centred around Faith, Hope and Love and includes a Bible passage, prayers and stories of how others have found God at work in their lives. It opened our eyes to how we can serve God and demonstrate His love in the roles we already have. We also enjoyed both a Summer and Christmas bring and share meal.

Monday Home Group – Chris & Josey Speller

We are a committed group of 10 people meeting weekly. We have two wonderful houses that alternate in hosting. During 2024 we have studied 'The bible course', 'Christian character', 'Living his story', 'Creation care' and 'Journey to the manger'. We enjoy doing life together, studying a variety of subjects and how the bible can be applied in our everyday lives and praying for each other.

Tuesday Home Group – Peter Foot

The @Kay's Home Group spent a good deal of 2024 studying Tom Wright's magisterial biography of Saint Paul. All of us were very grateful for Wright's insights and overview - a huge help in seeing Paul 'in the round'. Other studies

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included *The Prayers of Jesus* and *Rivers of Justice*, both using the Cover-to-Cover study guides. Wherever possible, we share the leadership of discussion amongst us all. Our membership is Kay Fox, Taiye Ono-Osagie, Jenny Summerfield, John Seedell, Margaret Starr, Wendy Tynan, and Peter Foot.

Our meetings, held on Tuesday mornings, have been mostly via Zoom - this has suited the various members and their various obligations and has not been a constraint on our gatherings. All of our meetings begin with a prayer to guide our study carefully, followed by one of us leading discussion. Time is always left for open prayer.

In 2024, we did make two trips as a group. One was to The Cornerstone Calendar and Bookshop in Grove to review the study options collectively with the resources helpfully provided for us. The other visit was to The Royal Army Chaplains' Museum at Shrivenham - a most moving experience that we would strongly recommend for any of the other Home Groups.

Wednesday Home Group – Mark & Helen Jackson

The Jackson's Home Group meets on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm at the Jackson's in the centre of Faringdon. There are 12 in the group. We sing and pray and have been studying the book of John for some time. We have got as far as Chapter 11!

Thursday Home Group – Update by Chris & Josey Speller hosted by Kate Crebbin

We meet weekly, usually at Kate's house, but also alternating when needed. This group was originally set up by Helen Wilson, who we regularly remember with delight. There are several who take turns in leading the studies. Amongst other things in 2024 we studied 'The Romans Course' and 'Living his story'. We are a group of 9 with an attendance of 4 or 5 most weeks. Most in the group are parents to teenage and older young people and we're open to more members joining us.

Thursday Home Group

We began as a new group during the year and meet on alternate Thursdays. We have been reading Mark's Gospel and are finding a lot to think about in a book we thought we knew! Currently we have 11 members.

FRIENDSHIP DIRECTORY – MARGARET STARR

The list exists to enable church members to exchange email addresses and telephone numbers. It is updated biennially, most recently in December when there were 125 listed.

OPEN CHURCH – MARIA JUKES

In 2024, Open Church was organized and supported from early May through mid-September. The greatest numbers have come on Bank Holiday weekends and at community festival times, e.g. FollyFest. We had over 375 visitors during the open period with over 300 of them visiting during the FollyFest weekend. The visitor's book was signed by 78 people from as far afield as Australia, Canada and China as well as a couple who apparently were married here in 1940. There are about 9-10 "sitters" on the team. It is still possible to borrow the key from the Tourist Information Centre and the church will be open again in 2025 from Easter until October on Bank Holidays and community festivals.

ALL SAINTS' SINGERS – KAREN BRUSCH

The All Saints' Worship Group have had a great year, learning new songs and welcoming new musicians to help lead worship on Sundays. Part of the challenge is enabling worship, not just playing and singing. Our aim is to allow the Holy Spirit to lead us. We pray before every Sunday morning service that this will be the case. The last year has seen us take some big steps forward: helping FollyFest to rock the house, mixing brand new songs with some favourites, taking time to listen to lots of music to find some real gems to learn, and growing in confidence at singing in harmonies. The organ "the old girl" has also played her part, welcoming new organists, who could in the future help with future services. I love playing the organ, but some songs just don't work, so there may be Sundays when she doesn't make an appearance, but most of the time, she will.

We are looking forward to the year ahead and always welcome your feedback. Thank you.

BELL-RINGERS – PETER HUNT

Sponsored Quarter Peal Week

This was commissioned by the ODG (Oxford Diocesan Guild) and held during the last week of February and the first week of March 2024. With this in mind we organised and rang a quarter peal, lasting about 45 minutes. It was the

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first quarter peal at Faringdon for Kit, one of our younger ringers. All Saints' ringers raised £175 in total for the Oxford Diocesan Bell Fund.

Notable VoWH Branch Events

A well-attended branch practice was held at All Saints', in place of our normal practice on 19th February. A general knowledge quiz was contested between about nine teams, mostly comprising one team per tower, at Uffington on February 24th. Faringdon came top. Our prize was a full size 'golden' bell clapper (displayed in the ringing room) and a directive to host a quiz for this year. This will be in the Barber Rooms on 5th April. The branch AGM was held at Longcot on Saturday 16th March. The branch dinner was held at the Prince of Wales pub at Shrivenham on 16th October.

Tower AGM

The tower AGM was held on March 25th in the Barber Rooms on the Monday of Holy Week replacing our normal practice. There were eleven attendees including the vicar and five apologies. Peter Hunt, Julian Watson and Elin Bornemann were re-elected as Tower Captain, Steeple Keeper and Treasurer, respectively. The Watson family agreed to carry on generating bell ringing articles for the Faringdon Advertiser and are now sharing these articles with those from the Stanford-in-the-Vale church bell ringers and hand bell ringers.

Visiting Ringers

All Saints' hosted a band of ringers from the Four Shires Ringing Group on 21st March and an outing from Clapton-in-Gordano, Somerset on April 1st (Easter Monday). We have had visiting ringers on Sundays and in particular a group of two or three from Highworth who still attend regularly for Monday practices.

Ringling for Sarah

On May 3rd we arranged a treat for a young girl called Sarah in conjunction with her parents and Maria. Sarah had just finished a lengthy course of chemotherapy at hospital and her parents wanted her to ring a church bell just as the hospital do on a small bell when chemotherapy ends. Sarah chimed our treble with great enthusiasm and was applauded as she finished. We then raised the bell and rang all eight bells normally. Press from Oxford were there to record the event and an interview with Sarah and her parents was broadcast on local radio the following day.

Striking Contests

Faringdon entered two teams (as did Shrivenham) in the VoWH Branch 6 Bell Striking Contest on May 21st at Uffington. There were seven teams in total. The contests are judged on the quality of the way a test piece is rung. The All Saints' teams came first and fourth, our best team winning for the third year in a row. The position of our second team was good considering one of the ropes came undone during the test piece.

As in 2023 the winning team went on to represent the Branch at the inter-branch contest of the ODG which in 2024 was held at Shottesbrooke (East of Reading) on 5th October. We didn't do very well coming seventh out of nine branch teams.

We contributed three ringers to the VoWH 10 bell team in the ODG competition. This band came fourth out of five teams but only five of the fifteen branches entered a team.

Ringling for the 80th Anniversary of D-Day

On Thursday 6th June we rang to remember the 80th anniversary of D-Day in line with the CCCBR (Central Council of Church Bell Ringers) request, as did towers throughout the country. This year we hope to ring when beacons are being lit to remember both VE Day (8thMay) and VJ Day (15thAugust).

Ringling World National Youth Contest

This was held in London on 6th July and was open to all ringers under the age of 19 years. As reported in the All Saints' Newsletter at the time two of our regular Sunday service ringers took part. One, Daniel, conducted the Oxford Diocesan Guild team.

FollyFest

The church was opened to visitors on the Saturday of FollyFest and we organised two events to complement the historic church tours. The first was a hand bell ringing workshop set up in the nave by the St. Denys hand bell ringing group from Stanford-in-the-Vale. The second was opening of the ringing room to give visitors an introduction to church bell ringing. This was done following a risk analysis and proved to be very popular, particularly with the children who took part.

2024 Peals

On Saturday 20nd July Daniel Watson, our competent young ringer, rang a complex peal, lasting three hours, to celebrate his seventeenth birthday. This has now become an annual event for him with another peal scheduled for

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2025. We provided additional publicity in 2024 following a complaint that we had about the bells on the previous Saturday when the tower was open during FollyFest.

On Saturday 17th August another peal was organised at All Saints' for the benefit of a young ringer from Highworth. Although he is from outside the Oxford Diocesan Guild, he is a regular supporter on our Monday practice night.

Weddings and Confirmation

There were four weddings which required bells in 2024, on May 4th, June 11th, July 13th and September 7th. We rang all eight bells for each of the weddings.

We rang for the Confirmation Service, which included the Bishop, on Saturday 3rd August.

Training and Recruitment

Two of our more recent recruits are continuing to ring and progressing well. One, aged 12 in 2024, wrote an article which was published in the Faringdon Advertiser about how much she enjoyed bell ringing. Unfortunately, another ringer that we had been teaching from the start of 2024 has now stopped ringing.

General

We have rung every Sunday for the 10.30am service and invariably manage to ring all eight bells. We rang for the NSPCC Carol Service (2nd December) and rang a quarter peal for the All Saints' Carol Service (15th December). Maria attended our Christmas celebration in the ringing room on the 18th December and we rang for the late Christmas Eve service.

Safeguarding

Most of our ringers over the age of sixteen have completed the Basic Awareness course, as required by the C of E and the same number have recently revisited the safeguarding portal to allow Jilly (All Saints' admin.) to ascertain that they have completed the course. At least one that hasn't needs some help with the online process and I plan to follow this up.

Centenary of the recast and rehang of the bells in 1926

We have had some feedback from the article that was published in the Faringdon Advertiser and from its mention in last year's APCM Report.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER (WDP) – KATE BUTCHER

Friday, 1st March 2024 at All Saints' Church:

We gathered for two services, at 3.00pm and 7.30pm, arranged by volunteers from all 5 main Faringdon churches to celebrate WDP which this year was prepared by Christian women in Palestine. Despite having been prepared many months prior to current events in the region, the service was very appropriate, and prayers were still very relevant. The focus of the service was based around Ephesians 4: 1-7 – "I beg you, bear with one another in love". The symbolism of an olive tree was used throughout the life stories of Palestinian Christian women of different generations, and in the sharing of the peace during the service (congregation members swapped printed bookmarks with one another whilst sharing the message of the service). Many members of the congregation commented after the service on the realism this brought, and on the beautiful reflection written titled 'Put peace into each other's hands'.

The church was decorated with Palestinian items and products (thanks to Karen Vogt and Mustard Seed) and images produced/suggested by the WDP organisation.



We are thankful for the generous collection made by congregation members of £351.05

A total of 48 people were in attendance (15.00 service= 30, 19.30 service = 18) – this also included all the volunteers.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN FARINGDON – KATIE FOOT

As Rev'd Maria Jukes and Rev'd Mark Greenwood settled into All Saints' and Faringdon Baptist Church respectively, Rev'd Fred Ireland retired in July 2024. We were pleased to welcome Rev'd Jason Cooke in September where, in addition to his circuit duties and ministry at Witney Methodist Church, he will look after Faringdon United Church for a year.

At the AGM in October, Tim Gerry (Faringdon Baptist Church) took over as President from Katie Foot (All Saints'), who is now Secretary. We are very grateful to Jonathan Mapley (All Saints'), our Treasurer, for continuing his role.

Activities organised during 2024 have included:

- Monthly columns in The Advertiser magazine (distributed to every household in Faringdon)
- Warm Spaces/Community Cafes with lunch or tea at Blessed Hugh, All Saints' and other venues in town
- Ash Wednesday Creation Care prayer service at All Saints'
- Weekly talks during Lent on "Issues Facing Christians Today", hosted by our churches
- World Day of Prayer, at All Saints', prepared by Christian women in Palestine
- 'Prayers for Peace' at the Friends' Meeting House
- Palm Sunday Procession of Witness, from Faringdon United Church to the Market Place
- Good Friday 'Reflections by the Cross' service at All Saints'
- Sunrise service on Easter Day on Folly Hill, with about 50 people present, led by Faringdon Baptist Church, followed by a delicious breakfast at All Saints'
- Christian Aid week e-collection and United Songs of Praise at All Saints'
- Big Green Day (stalls included Eco-Church and The Mustard Seed)
- A husting in the Corn Exchange on 25th June, with almost all the candidates for our new Witney constituency, shortly before the General Election.
- FollyFest open air service, led by Rev'd Maria Jukes, an excellent drama of the Good Samaritan parable arranged by Dominic Bullock, and a joint music group
- Creationtide service in September at Faringdon Baptist Church
- General support to Ukrainians and residents at Brackendale (Sanctuary Faringdon)

Faringdon Food Bank

Faringdon Food Bank is run by Churches Together in Faringdon in partnership with the Town Council. The small food bank is managed on a part-time paid basis by Adele Vincent who is a council employee and who is supported by a small subcommittee of members representing All Saints', the Baptist Church, Blessed Hugh and the United Church. Unfortunately, we are all getting older and physically less able to do as much as we once did and are looking for others to help by becoming trustees and church representatives.

Our amazing volunteers work very effectively together to deliver a caring but efficient service to those in need. We do need more volunteers particularly to help with the weekly shopping, and if this is something that you feel you could do, please ask me as soon as possible for more information.

Year on year the demand for our services in these straightened times has increased with over 170 clients or families now from Faringdon and villages on our records, including asylum seekers.

We are extremely grateful for the generous donations both financial and food from members of all the churches, and those who donate at Waitrose and the Stanford Co-op. Adele also works very hard accessing grants to help provide foods for us to distribute.

We have a donation box in church by the front door on the first pew in the south aisle so if you're able to offer even one small tin or packet of food a month that will really help us to feed those who are finding life particularly challenging. Alternatively, if you are able and would like to make a financial donation please speak to Jonathan Mapley or note the details - Faringdon Food Bank; sort Code 20-90-91; Acc. No. 53402738.

On a personal note, I have been part of this Churches Together subcommittee for the last ten years and I've led the team running the food bank for the last three. I've decided that my season of service in this way has now come to an end, and I informed the CTiF Committee of that at their last meeting in January so this will be my last report.

Jeni Summerfield

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Mustard Seed

The shop was open all year, from 9am to 1pm Mondays to Saturdays, and in December we were also able to remain open until 4pm Tuesdays to Saturdays.

We were very sad that, having supplied us with books and cards I think since the Mustard Seed very first opened, The Lighthouse in Highworth closed at the end of January 2024. We greatly miss the help and advice we received from Malcolm and Val Swift over nearly 25 years since Malcolm became manager. We were, however, able to buy some closing-down stock and re-use some of their shop fittings. Our customers soon noticed the re-vamp, which has made the shop much more colourful.

We have made a new arrangement for ordering books and cards through the Cornerstone Christian Centre in Grove. Our grateful thanks to Sarah Shewring, the manager at Cornerstone, for being so very helpful.

A stall was held in the Corn Exchange on Faringdon's Big Green Day in June. Blessed Hugh church also has a sale after Mass on the first Sunday of each month, and St Denys, Stanford in the Vale has held several again in 2024 as well. The Big Bali Bonanza, held for a second time in November, raised nearly £400.

As agreed by the Management Committee, one grant was given from the charity account to a particular case of local medical need.

Our shop staff and window dressers are wonderful and so reliable – as is Kath Thacker, who keeps us in clean towels each week. We were delighted to welcome Jessica Paixão Duarte to the Monday (and occasion stand-in) rota, as Katie Dyet decided it was time to step back for a while. Grateful thanks, too, to Lois Chell for her hard work keeping the books in order and arranging for the accounts to be audited by Alder Demain Akers free of charge.

Sjoerd Vogt – Chairman
Karen Vogt and Katie Foot – Co-managers

Sanctuary Faringdon

Work has continued helping and befriending the Ukrainians, including the monthly "Gathering" at Faringdon Baptist Church.

During 2024, asylum seekers came and went; it has been hard work keeping track of who is there, and exactly what help they need. Blessed Hugh have been very generous in offering lunches on many Sundays after Mass, as well as having meetings on a Monday afternoon arranged by Kathleen Thomas and Peter Starr. Faringdon Baptist Church hosted English language lessons for some weeks and later in the year we managed to arrange some at the Language Centre in Watchfield (happily in January 2025 these moved to the Friends' Meeting House in Faringdon which is much more convenient). Help has been offered by various individuals in all sorts of ways, including assistance with medical, legal and school issues. We were also able to help a few move into their own accommodation once they had received their right to remain.

Sjoerd Vogt and Katie Foot

If anyone has managed to read thus far and would like to get more involved in any of the work we do across the town, please don't hesitate to contact Tim Gerry (FBC) or me.

Katie Foot - Secretary, Churches Together in Faringdon

ALL SAINTS' PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024
Statement of financial activities (SOFA)

2023 £		Notes	General funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total £
<u>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS</u>							
156,770	Voluntary Income	2a	144,573	-	21,301	-	165,874
	Activities for generating funds		-	-	-	-	
7,030	Income from Investments	2b	2,830	-	7,070	-	9,900
11,337	Church Activities	2c	12,587	-	-	-	12,587
	Other income		-	-	-	-	-
175,137	TOTAL INCOME		159,990		28,371		188,361
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>							
72	Raising Funds	3a	-	-	-	-	
	Church Activities						
13,034	- Missionary and Charitable Giving	3b	14,812	-	50	-	14,862
63,451	- Diocesan Parish Share (£67203, less refunds)		65,691	-	-	-	65,691
78,366	- Other activities	3c	52,555		29,831		82,386
220	Governance Costs	3d	220	-	-	-	220
155,144	TOTAL EXPENDITURE		133,278	-	29,881	-	163,159
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) BEFORE INVESTMENT GAINS/(LOSSES)							
19,993			26,712		(1,510)		25,202
NET GAINS ON INVESTMENT ASSETS (on revaluation)							
22,199		11		289	3,926	3,205	7,420
42,193	NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		26,712	289	2,416	3,205	32,623
TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS							
-	- Move £750 from General Fund to CL Designated		(750)	750		-	-
-						-	-
-						-	-
42,193	NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		25,962	1,039	2,416	3,205	32,623
784,605	Total funds brought forward 1 January		535,726	12,898	138,145	140,029	826,798
826,798	Total funds carried forward 31 December		561,688	13,937	140,561	143,234	859,421

ALL SAINTS' PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

Balance sheet

2023 £		Notes	General funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total £
Fixed assets							
470,440	Tangible fixed assets	7	465,000	-	-	-	465,000
238,063	Investment assets	8	-	13,937	88,438	143,234	245,609
<u>708,503</u>	Total fixed assets		<u>465,000</u>	<u>13,937</u>	<u>88,438</u>	<u>143,234</u>	<u>710,609</u>
Current assets							
0	Stock		-	-	-	-	-
0	Debtors (tax recoverable)	9	-	-	-	-	-
89,132	Short term deposits		85,561		52,123		137,684
29,163	Cash in hand and at bank		11,127	-		-	11,127
<u>118,295</u>	Total current assets		<u>96,688</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>52,123</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>148,812</u>
Liabilities(Creditors): amounts falling due within one year							
0	Interest Free Loans		0	-	-	-	0
0	Barber Rooms costs	10	0	-	-	-	0
<u>118,295</u>	Net current assets		<u>96,688</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>52,123</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>148,812</u>
Liabilities(Creditors): amounts falling due after one year							
0	Interest Free Loans		0	-	-	-	0
<u>826,798</u>			<u>561,688</u>	<u>13,937</u>	<u>140,561</u>	<u>143,234</u>	<u>859,421</u>
Funds of the church							
Unrestricted funds							
535,726	General fund		561,688	-	-	-	561,688
12,898	Designated fund	12	-	13,937	-	-	13,937
<u>548,624</u>			<u>561,688</u>	<u>13,937</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>575,626</u>
138,145	Restricted funds	11	-	-	140,561	-	140,561
140,029	Endowment fund	11	-	-	-	143,234	143,234
<u>826,798</u>	Total funds of the church		<u>561,688</u>	<u>13,937</u>	<u>140,561</u>	<u>143,234</u>	<u>859,421</u>
			-	-	-	-	-

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 1 April 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

Maria Jukes
Vicar, All Saints Church

Dr David Wilson
Treasurer, All Saints Church

ALL SAINTS' PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

Notes to the accounts

2023				2024		
Total funds	2 INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total funds
£		£	£	£	£	£
	2a Voluntary Income					
	Planned Giving:					
68,451	Tax - efficient planned giving (excl. tax)	82,450	-	-	-	82,450
22,499	Tax recovered/recoverable	22,182	-	1,531	-	23,713
16,245	Other planned giving (bankers order and payroll)	23,585	-	-	-	23,585
7,661	Collections of loose cash at services	4,575	-	-	-	4,575
	Legacies	-	-	-	-	-
22,775	Children & Families Leader Cont'ns (ODBF & Individual:	-	-	19,595	-	19,595
	Grants Received towards activities	-	-	-	-	-
	Youth Work Related Donations	-	-	-	-	-
	Mission Fund Donations	-	-	-	-	-
687	Little All Sorts Donations	368	-	-	-	368
8,288	Other donations (Gift Aided)	1,593	-	125	-	1,718
10,164	Other donations (Non Gift Aided)	9,649	-	50	-	9,699
	Wall Safe/Cask etc.	170	-	-	-	170
156,770		144,573	-	21,301	-	165,874
	Activities for generating funds					
	Fetes, Bazaars, Other fund-raising events	-	-	-	-	-
	2b Investment Income					
2,482	Deposit accounts (CBF, CAF, Virgin)	2,283	-	2,962	-	5,244
4,548	CBF Investment Account Dividends	548	-	4,108	-	4,656
7,030		2,830	-	7,070	-	9,900
	2c Incoming resources from charitable activities					
8,148	Fees - weddings, funerals etc	8,871	-	-	-	8,871
3,189	Room Hire	3,716	-	-	-	3,716
11,337		12,587	-	-	-	12,587
	Other incoming resources (If required)	-	-	-	-	-
	3 EXPENDITURE					
	3a Raising Funds					
72	Stewardship Campaign. Gift Aid Envelopes etc.	-	-	-	-	-
	3b Missionary and Charitable Giving (see note 6)					
8,290	Overseas Mission, Relief & Aid	8,877	-	-	-	8,877
3,274	Home Missions	4,040	-	-	-	4,040
1,470	Secular Charities	1,895	-	50	-	1,945
13,034		14,812	-	50	-	14,862
	3c Church Activities					
620	Ministry: Clergy Expenses	1,183	-	-	-	1,183
	Curate Costs	-	-	-	-	-
32,833	Children & Families Leader	10,684	-	21,095	-	31,779
890	Other Staff & Expenses	288	-	-	-	288
5,414	Church Cleaning	5,198	-	-	-	5,198
3,354	Heat Light & Water	3,187	-	-	-	3,187
590	Telephone & Wi-Fi	713	-	-	-	713
6,427	Insurance	6,231	-	-	-	6,231
500	Repairs & Maintenance: Organ & Bells	-	-	729	-	729
6,833	Other (mainly Quinquennial work)	690	-	8,008	-	8,697
607	Church Development	-	-	-	-	-
2,114	Cost of church services	1,944	-	-	-	1,944
1,675	Upkeep of Churchyard	1,807	-	-	-	1,807
1,499	Training, Mission & Education	1,455	-	-	-	1,455
5,440	Depreciation charge for year (Barber Rooms etc.)	5,440	-	-	-	5,440
	Other expense items	-	-	-	-	-
9,568	Admin, Printing, Stationery, Bank Charges	13,734	-	-	-	13,734
78,366		52,555	-	29,831	-	82,386
	3d Governance Costs					
220	Audit fees, legal advice, PCC meetings	220	-	-	-	220
	4 STAFF COSTS					
46,117	Wages & Salaries	48,774				
4	Average no. of employees	3				

During the year the PCC employed a Children and Families leader, an administrator and a cleaner.

There were no P11D employee benefits paid to any staff in this, or previous, years

ALL SAINTS' PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

Notes to the accounts

5 Trustee remuneration and expenses - related parties

No members of the PCC received any remuneration for their work on the PCC. The clergy, who are ex officio members do receive a stipend but are not remunerated for their service on the PCC. No PCC members claimed expenses although they would be entitled to claim travel costs for attending meetings.

6 Grants made - grants were made to the following institutions:

Christian Aid	1080.00	CMS	3600.00
Wycliffe Bible Translators	260.00	Royal British Legion	565.00
Sanctuary Hosting	300.00	Interserve	1440.00
Scripture Union	540.00	The Bible Society	540.00
The Children's Society	1140.00	Simeon's Trustees	290.00
Tear Fund	1080.00	Torch Trust	125.00
WATSAN	1080.00	Faringdon Food Bank	50.00
Tearfund Appeal	337.00	A Rocha	1080.00
Root & Branch	540.00	Anna Chaplaincy	150.00
Pennyhooks Farm	540.00	Guide Dogs for the Blind	125.00
2023 TOTAL		TOTAL	14862.00

No grants were made to individuals.

7 Tangible fixed assets (all unrestricted)

	Freehold land & buildings	Fixtures fittings & equipment	Other	Total
Cost or valuation	£	£	£	£
At 1 January 2024	500,000	2,200	-	502,200
Additions/Disposals	-	-	-	-
Revaluations	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2024	500,000	2,200	-	502,200
Depreciation				
At 1 January 2024	30,000	1,760	-	31,760
Charge for year	5,000	440	-	5,440
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2024	35,000	2,200	-	37,200
Net book value				
At 1 January 2024	470,000	440	-	470,440
At 31 December 2024	465,000	-	-	465,000

8 Investment assets

Fixed asset investments	£
Carrying (market) value on 1 January 2024	238,063
Add additions at cost/value	-
Less disposals at carrying value	-
Net gain/(loss) on revaluation	7,546
Market Value - 31st December 2024	245,609

9 Debtors and prepayments (no amounts were due in more than one year)

	Amounts falling due within one year
	2,024
	£
Accrued income - tax refund due	-
	0

10 Creditors and accruals (no amounts were due in more than one year)

	Amounts falling due within one year
	2,024
	£
Accruals	-
	0

11 Endowment and restricted funds

	Fund balances b/f	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Gains and losses	Fund balances c/f
	£	£	£	£	£
Endowment funds					
Craven/Rawlings/John Wright (Inv A/C)	21,678	-	-	496	22,175
Haines/Spinage (Inv A/C)	3,448	-	-	79	3,527
Celia Walker Fund (Inv A/C)	114,903	-	-	2,630	117,533
	140,029	-	-	3,205	143,234
Restricted funds					
	£	£	£	£	£
Chamberlain (Organ Fund) (Invest)	66,282	0	624.24	3,380	69,038.42
Chamberlain (Organ Fund) (Deposit)	579	650.15	611	-	617.85
Celia Walker Fund (Deposit)	27,079	4,859	13,800	-	18,138.20
Celia Walker Fund (Invest)	14,813	0	-	339	15,152.07
Bell Ringers Fund (Deposit)	4,282	381	118	-	4,545.11
Fabric Fund (Quinquennial grants etc.)	8,780	466	-	-	9,245.53
Accrual for tax refund	0	-	-	-	0.00
Mission Fund (Deposit)	17,526	930	-	-	18,456.34
Boffin (Bells, clock, chimes) (Inv)	4,041	-	-	206	4,247.12
Boffin (Bells, clock, chimes) (Deposit)	1,064	56	-	-	1,120.20
	144,445	7,343	15,153	3,926	140,560.84

12 Designated Funds

	£	£	£	£	£
Coach Lane Investment Fund	12,898	750	-	289	13,937

Independent Examiner's Report to the Parochial Church Council of ALL SAINTS'

I have examined the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet and related notes.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC (Charity trustees) and Independent Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

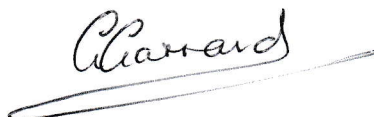
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention

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

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or

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

Gill Garrard
24th March 2025
Independent Examiner
3 Stanford Road
Faringdon
Oxon SN7 7AQ



Accounts

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC) OF ALL SAINTS' FARINGDON

ANNUAL REPORTS AND ACCOUNTS FOR 2023

AIMS and PURPOSES

All Saints' PCC is responsible, in co-operation with the Vicar, and during the vacancy until 23rd May 2023 the PCC Lay Chair, for promoting the whole mission of the Church – pastoral, evangelistic and social – within the ecclesiastical parish, and for maintaining the fabric of All Saints' Church and Coach Lane cemetery.

The PCC of All Saints' Faringdon is a corporate body established by the Church of England and operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The PCC exceeds the limits for exemption from registering with the Charity Commission and is therefore registered under the name of "The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of All Saints' Faringdon" (Charity No. 1134401).

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. The membership of the PCC consists of the Vicar/Lay Chair, Licenced Lay Ministers, Churchwardens, Deanery Synod representatives and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the church. All those who are members of our congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC is aware of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in "The advancement of Religion for the Public Benefit" and have regard to it in the administration of the parish.

The PCC believes that, by fulfilling its responsibility to work together with the Vicar and co-operating in all matters of concern and importance for the promotion of the whole mission of the Church, it provides a benefit to the public, both to individuals and to society as a whole, by: providing resources and facilities for public worship, pastoral care and spiritual, moral and intellectual development, both to its members and for anyone who wishes to benefit from what the church offers; promoting Christian values and the service by members of the church to their communities.

To facilitate this work, it is important that we also maintain the fabric of both All Saints' Church and the Barber Rooms.

This review summarises the life of All Saints' church during the calendar year 2023 and highlights a number of events and activities. Again this year, those responsible for many of the church's activities have been invited to contribute.

The PCC met 6 times during 2023, with an average attendance of 17. During the year the following served as members of the PCC, ex-officio, elected or invited to attend.

Ex officio members:

Vicar	Rev Maria Jukes
Licensed Lay Minister	Graham Weller
Church Wardens	Linda Ritchie Mark Jackson
Deanery Synod Reps	Peter Foot John Seedell Geoff Loosemore

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC) OF ALL SAINTS' FARINGDON
ANNUAL REPORTS AND ACCOUNTS FOR 2023

Elected Members (members are elected for three years)

Until APCM 2024	Jim McGowan Helen Jackson Mandy Hathway Wendy Tynan
Until APCM 2025	Janet Deane Katie Foot Immy Newcome Alun Watkins
Until APCM 2026	Chris Horley Christopher Raybone Sarah Mais (resigned Sept 2023) Alice Boughton
Children's & Families'	
Leader (Co-opted)	Josey Speller
Safeguarding (Co-opted)	Isobell Weller
Hon Treasurer	David Wilson
Hon Secretary	Mandy Hathway

Vicar's Report

It is quite exciting to write my first vicar's report for this APCM having started this role at All Saints' following the Institution, Induction and Installation service on 23rd May 2023. I want to begin by firstly thank all those who stepped up in different ways and covered extra roles and responsibilities during the vacancy. I know this was an enormous team effort that included many people, but I particularly want to thank the wardens Mark and Linda for all they did during this period, all those who were involved in the creation of the parish profile, those organising arrangements around interview day, and the ministers (ordained and lay) who covered services and contributed to the mission and ministry in Faringdon during this period. It seems to me that everyone came together and did a fantastic job which helped enormously when starting this role.

I thought it might be good to look back over the year and mention a few highlights:

The **Super-Teddy Zip-Wire** and **Historic Tours** during Folly Fest saw brilliant engagement from the community and I'm hoping we can build on this in coming years. Many thanks to Josey, Alice, James and Andrew Sargent for your lead and expertise which made this event possible. And also thanks to Mark who braved the church organ to send the teddies flying across the church, and to everyone who was involved on the day welcoming and assisting with activities which ensured that everything went smoothly.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC) OF ALL SAINTS' FARINGDON

ANNUAL REPORTS AND ACCOUNTS FOR 2023

Summer and Advent Teas were both really well attended and provided a valued space for those living on their own. Attendance was beyond expectation and I've received some very positive feedback from both these events. A massive thanks to John Seedell, Helen Jackson, Jeni Summerfield, and everyone who was involved in baking, serving, setting up and clearing up – I know your efforts were greatly appreciated by all who attended.

The introduction of **Creationtide** in September fitted in with our ongoing work with Eco Church well and the sermon series that ran throughout this helped us to think more theologically around creation care. The Eco Group that has been set up this year was central in inspiring ideas and themes for this, as was Graham in his support with preaching and Josey for All Age activities that fitted in – many thanks to you all.

Please do look through all the reports submitted for APCM to get a full view of everything going on in the life of the church. It is inspiring to see the scope and diversity of activities, mission, and ministry that takes place through different people and groups contributing their gifts and time.

Alongside these particular activities and events, we have sustained the existing service pattern with 9am BCP Holy Communion every Sunday and a 10.30am service (with a mixture of All Age, Holy Communion, and Service of the Word throughout the month), seasonal services, our monthly prayer meeting continues on Zoom, and in addition Morning Prayer on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday in church has been introduced in addition to the Friday morning prayer on Zoom which has continued. In all these things I am extremely grateful to the ministry team for their support and contribution to All Saints' as well as lay leaders who have contributed much to the prayer life of the church. I think the gift of having different voices and experiences to draw from is something which contributes greatly to our worshipping life, and the support of Rev'd David Pickering alongside the retired clergy with PTO: Rev'd Chris Etherton, Rev'd Tim Hewes, Rev'd Dick Whittington, Rev'd Barbara Mapley, Rev'd Paul Winchester, lay minister Graham Weller, and Childrens and Families Worker Josey Speller has been invaluable to me as I've settled in, and we all continue to be blessed by their ministry amongst us.

Alongside exciting and good things, this year has also contained sadness and loss, particularly as several beloved members of our congregation have died. Shortly before I arrived Rev'd Jeremy Mais sadly died, and I know this loss is felt widely across the church and that Jeremy continues to be deeply missed. I met Jeremy briefly during interviews and am very sad I never had the chance to minister together with him. It was also a great shock when Helen Wilson died shortly after my arrival. Not one week has gone by since I started here where Helen and her many gifts has not been mentioned to me and I think we are all still coming to terms with what our lives and All Saints' without her ministry looks like. As we continue to work through these bereavements and the voids they have left both in our hearts and in the ministry in the church, we also give thanks to God for all he has done through their lives and the certain hope we have been given through Jesus Christ that they are enjoying their time in His glory until we get to be together again.

After carrying out the role as administrator for two years, Alison decided that it was time to step down. We are thankful for her administrative support, particularly over the vacancy period and I'm grateful for how she helped me settle in and the introduction to how the church office operates. As PCC considered how we might best fill this vacancy it was agreed that a slight change to the job description would be helpful in the ongoing running of the church office, and we were able to recruit Jilly as Office Manager during 2023 with a start date of January 2024.

I think it is important to mention both those things that have been good throughout the year whilst also noticing and reflect on those things that have been challenging. I appreciate that with any major change, such as the arrival of a new vicar, there will be both good and more difficult things. I am so grateful to all of All Saints' for the warm welcome both Richard and I have received. It is truly a joy to live in Faringdon and, for me, to minister amongst you. We have both settled in and feel very much at home. I am thankful for your encouragement, and the way you have met my shortcomings with grace and forgiveness. I also cannot

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC) OF ALL SAINTS' FARINGDON

ANNUAL REPORTS AND ACCOUNTS FOR 2023

thank you enough for all your support and willingness to get stuck in (even with slightly unusual ideas!); being part of your church family is a gift to me. A huge thank you to everyone in church who continue to faithfully serve and help in various roles and carrying out a multitude of tasks (from building and churchyard maintenance, to sound/IT, vergering, communion assistants, prayer ministry, readers and those leading intercessions, flowers, CTiF engagement and much more!) – I know a lot of this goes largely unseen and the space here is too short to mention everything, but please know that all you do is so very appreciated and none of the work we do would be able to happen without you.

As we look forward to the coming year I am full of excitement and hoping that, as the dust has settled a bit and I am getting more familiar with how everything works, we will have space to think a bit more strategically and long term about how we feel God is calling us to take part in his mission in Faringdon. This will involve some thinking about our church building and its use, but also how we might grow in our faith and discipleship regardless of age, circumstance, and stage of faith, as well as being open to opportunities to share the Good News we have all come to know in Christ. I hope we can continue to combine that desire to follow Jesus with an intentionality of living out His love in our everyday lives. May we all continue to grow in God's love, and may He inspire us to share it faithfully in this place and time.

Maria Jukes

Financial Review for 2023 – David Wilson

Total receipts on unrestricted funds were £131,240 of which £84,696 was unrestricted planned voluntary donations, and a further £20,544 was from Gift Aid. Restricted income and donations (including gift aid) of £25,531 were also received. Of this, £15,275 is a grant from the ODBF, covering half the cost of our Children & Families leader Josey Speller. No legacies were received in the year.

£128,692 was spent from unrestricted funds to promote the whole mission of the church within the parish and beyond. Our diocesan parish share of £67,203 was paid in full (£63,451 after rebates received for paying by direct debit, being in an interregnum for 4 months and because the deanery share for the first half of the year was paid in full before the end of July). Donations to missions and charities of £13,034 were made.

Overall funds increased by £42,193 during the year. There was an increase in the General Fund of £20,628. Designated, Restricted and Endowment funds also all increased in value due to increases in the value of funds invested in the stock market.

PCC Reserves Policy – David Wilson

The PCC needs to hold reserves as it has fixed (and usually rising) expenditure each year to cover expenditure such as Parish Share, Parochial expenses, Insurance, Repairs and Maintenance, Gas/Electricity/Water to support church services with no guaranteed income.

The risk of income not arising each year to cover these core expenditure items is small (there are a reasonable number of committed/planned givers who provide a good base level of income each year).

The PCC believe that reserves amounting to between three and six months of annual expenditure on the items above is reasonable to cater for a downturn in income as well as providing an appropriate level of funds to cover expected buildings expenditure. This would equate to around £33,000 to £66,000 on 2023 general expenditure.

The PCC currently has reserves (unrestricted and designated) within this range, and due to the increase in the General fund mentioned above, our reserves are now at the top end of this range.

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It is our policy to invest the short-term investment fund balances with the CCLA Church of England Deposit Fund, and the remainder typically in the CCLA Church of England Investment Fund.

Church Fabric Report - *Jim McGowan*

Probably the most significant event over the past year has been the energy audit that was completed last October, with the work being co-ordinated with the Eco church group. The audit was part of a wider programme within the diocese and the diocese subsidised the cost of our audit. We are still considering how we can implement the audit recommendations, but there will be plenty to keep us busy for the next few years!

During the year, we received permission to go ahead with repairs in the baptistery, covering the roof and guttering and replastering and redecorating the walls; this work will take place very soon. We also worked closely with the Commonwealth War Graves Commission on proposals for two new commemorative headstones in the churchyard; the new headstones will be installed in the next few months.

Another change in the churchyard has been the trimming of the two large red cedars (near the western end of the church) – this work will reduce the problems we get with blocked gutters and drains. We have had a series of discussions over the past year about our lightning protection system and we will probably need to carry out an upgrade to this soon.

Thank you to everyone on the Fabric Group for all their work over the past year – for looking after the heating system, organising regular maintenance and servicing, changing inaccessible light bulbs, participating in decluttering days, removing weeds and cutting back shrubs, sorting out repair jobs and everything else! We are extremely grateful for all that you do to look after our wonderful buildings.

Coach Lane Cemetery – *Wendy Tynan*

The work being done may be placed into two broad categories.

Firstly there is routine maintenance. This includes the weekly clearing and sorting of the bins, not a trivial task! Mowing the paths and general tidying of the graves of sticks and leaves and in addition the planting of bulbs this last year with irregular spacing in the older half of the cemetery as a resource for pollinating insects. At longer intervals encroaching grass is cleared from the gravel path leading from the main gates and past the tree line for access of coffins for interment. Grass is also cut back periodically from the cremation stones. This task has recently been done superbly by Ernestine who worked hard all day to get the job done.

Secondly, there is the work being done to support and generate habitats for wildlife.

1. The cutting of the back hedge is done routinely, but Sorbus Gardening Care is now creating wild life environments by putting all hedge trimmings in spaces beneath the hedge. In previous years these have gone out as garden waste. This is providing a habitat for insects and with build up over time, both cover and nutrition for small birds. Tree fall twigs will also be used to back fill the hedge. More hedgerow flowers donated as unwanted intruders from gardens, including wild violets, will contribute to ground cover, as will survivors of scattered wild flower seeds!
2. In addition to excellent maintenance of paths, Gentle Giant Gardening is creating wild flower swathes from the memorial mound. This grass is given a top cut to allow smaller wild flowers to flourish and be overgrown in turn by taller flowers and grasses as the year progresses. Similar

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work is being done at one end of the dividing lines of trees. Earlier planting of the mound itself continues, and a plan has been made for erecting a wire support construction between poles close to the back fence to support climbing plants for diversity and further interest together with the wildlife support.

3. A start was made at the beginning of this year to create a composting area for grave wild flowers and grass cuttings and a row of three containers constructed by Mark Jackson from wooden pallets is in place to create a sequence of composting material. As one is filled the next is started. There is a need to consider further how to store and put to use earth from flower pots and removed from graves, which will mount up quite rapidly. The compost bins will require careful and regular monitoring to remove plant pots and other rubbish that is likely to be thrown in.
4. Ash die-back is a problem in the cemetery. Replacing the trees is a long term project. I have been advised that Ash pollarded to a height of 5-6ft will continue to produce new growth as they weaken and finally die over the succeeding five years. Within the same time frame hedge planting in the intervening spaces between the trees is proposed, with hawthorn and other hedge plants selected to produce a succession of flowers and berries during the year as a food resource for both birds and pollinators.

In summary a good foundation for future works has been laid in 2023/24. An opportunity lies ahead not only to provide a tranquil place of rest, but to tackle practical issues raised; to rethink, re-plan and adapt, as required, to take forward the protection and nurture of this lovely garden as we should in 2024/25 and beyond.

Deanery of the Vale of the White Horse – *Peter Foot*

2023 was an unusual year for the Vale of White Horse Deanery in that all seven authorised clergy posts were filled! The Deanery's ministry team was obviously strengthened by the arrival of the Revd Maria - but also by Revd Patrick Mobutu (from Zimbabwe) to Ashbury, and Fr Sebastian Mattapally (from South India) to Longworth. We are most grateful for the added strength this gives to the witness and work of all in our area.

Each Wednesday morning, Deanery Prayers are offered by the online group, beginning with the rotating list of Benefices - Faringdon and Little Coxwell, like the others in sequence, are prayed for specifically once every 6 weeks. The Incumbents are invited to provide subjects for prayer. In every session, topics such as our health services, care homes, schools, food banks, finances, and the pressures on young people are committed to God. Links are made to the work of the Diocese and the Church of England more broadly. Particularly important is adding to the prayers worldwide for the restoration of peace with justice, wherever these are being violated. (Please contact Peter Foot if you would like to receive the weekly Deanery Prayer suggestions.)

There have been two strong features of the Deanery's work this past year. The first is Eco Church. Of the 27 churches and chapels in the Deanery, 17 have either already received a Bronze Award or are registered and on their way towards that goal. At All Saints', we are working with the PCC to achieve a Silver Award. The second focus area has been working with the Faringdon Learning Trust to establish a School Chaplain - this would provide much improved Christian leadership and provision for most of the children attending secondary school across the Vale of White Horse. It will also reinforce Christian teaching in the primary schools - already very fruitful and in good hands - that are part of the Academy Trust.

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As with many Deaneries, a particular worry is finding volunteers to cover the many roles that all churches need filled for their everyday life and ministry. The post-Covid dearth of people willing to offer their time and talents is a major challenge and leaves Incumbents with too many things to do - even in Deaneries that are fully staffed.

Safeguarding – Isobel Weller

We continue our work at All Saints' to do our utmost to ensure that our church is a safe place for all.

Isobel and Helen Wilson shared responsibility for safeguarding until Helen's death in July 2023. We owe Helen an enormous debt of gratitude for her commitment to safeguarding and for leading on the tasks of administration and responding to concerns in a timely manner. Thanks are also due to Margaret Townsend and Alison Scott for their assistance with processing DBS checks whilst in office. Isobel was approved by the PCC in September 2023 as Parish Safeguarding Officer, and Jilly Strongman, the Church Administrator, is the DBS Recruiter/Verifier.

Josey Speller, the Children and Families Leader, oversees the different children's groups and liaises with Maria and Isobel as necessary, ensuring amongst other things that the safer recruitment procedures are carried out for all new volunteers.

The Safeguarding Dashboard, provided by the diocese, is an excellent tool and we continue to use this. It clarifies the steps required to work towards the safest possible environment, and gives links to the latest documentation. This also produces an action plan, which is shared with the PCC at intervals. This has now been supplemented by the Safeguarding Hub, which is tailored to the specific DBS and Training requirements for members of All Saints, and is proving to be a useful tool.

Following the end of the interregnum and Maria's installation as Vicar, it has been possible to resume regular safeguarding meetings with Maria, Josey, Jilly, and Linda. The Safeguarding team have continued to be responsive and pro-active. They have responded to a small but not insignificant number of concerns (children and adults) raised over the past year, involving the diocese and external agencies where necessary.

Church Warden Review of the Year 2023 – Linda Ritchie & Mark Jackson

2023 at All Saints church began in vacancy following the retirement of Steve Bellamy the previous summer. The closing date for applications for the post of new vicar was 6 January and shortlisting took place the following week. Three candidates attended on 30 January to find out more about us and about Faringdon and St Mary's and All Saints PCCs hosted an evening meal for them. Interviews took place the following day. Bishop Gavin, Archdeacon David Tyler and four parish representatives were unanimous in offering the post to Rev Maria Jukes. Maria and Richard moved into the vicarage on 10 May and the service of induction and installation with Bishop Gavin took place on 23 May 2023. Our thanks to those who attended several days of garden maintenance and inside painting in the vicarage prior to Maria's arrival. We were delighted to welcome Maria and her family and greatly appreciate her ministry among us.

The Churchwardens would like to thank the retired clergy, LLMs and others who so generously led our church services throughout the period of vacancy.

Special services during the year at All Saints comprised All Age Christingle and Taizé service in January, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Day in April. On Easter Day, a CTiF sunrise service took place on Folly Hill with breakfast after. The Easter Day services were followed by an Easter egg hunt. Thank you Jim and Julie !

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On Saturday 8 July, for Folly Fest, we held a teddy bear zip wire challenge inside the church followed by a CTiF joint open air service in the town square the following day at which Maria preached.

Sunday 15 October we held a service for churches together in Faringdon followed by the AGM. Also, in October we held an AllSaintstide service and in November a remembrance service after which we met at the town war memorial.

December 9 was the Messy Nativity and on 17th was our candlelit Carol service followed by mulled wine and mince pies. Midnight communion was held on the 24 December which was very well attended especially by people who do not normally attend church.

In addition, we would like to thank Chris and Josey Speller for organising a number of Prayer and Praise midweek evenings in the first half of the year.

Attendance at services during the year 2023 is still down compared to pre pandemic attendance taking random week samples from 2019 but is steadily increasing. We are delighted to have welcomed new members over the year.

It was a great sadness that we lost Rev Jeremy Mais on 1 May and LLM Helen Wilson on 1 July. Both were hugely supportive of the church at both St Marys and All Saints and both are greatly missed. As a church we have held Sarah and Dave and their families in our prayers and shall continue to do so. We also grieve the loss of Margaret Gantlett, Patricia Jervis, Norman Leslie, Maggie Pepper and David Thacker.

A new church sign arrived and was erected near the main entrance gateway early in March. Many thanks to those who formed the committee to organise this and special thanks to Kitty Marlow for her design input. Following on from our bronze Ecochurch award in 2022, PCC set up an Ecochurch working group which has provided ideas of how to make progress towards the next stage and to this end we had an Energy Audit in October. Also in October, the archdeacon and deanery lay chair came for the first church inspection in some years and gave a satisfactory report.

Many thanks to all who have served on the PCC and on our teams of vergers, readers, welcomers and intercessors both at the 9am and 10:30 am services.

Special thanks to Dave Wilson our treasurer, Josey and her team of helpers with children's work, our administrator, Alison who resigned in the autumn, Caroline our cleaner, Jim McGowan and the fabric team, Helen Jackson and the social events team, Jeni Summerfield and the flower guild team, Karen, Ruth and the music group, Chris Raybone on sound and visuals, Peter Hunt and his team of bellringers, Geoff Edgington for maintenance, those on the coffee rota, Wendy and team for work in the graveyard and many others who volunteer their time and their gifts in order to make our church such a friendly and welcoming community.

ACTIVITIES

Children and Families Leader Report – Josey Speller

January to December 2023 was a year of great highs and some challenges. It has been great to welcome Maria to All Saints, and I have thoroughly enjoyed serving in ministry with her and learning from her along the way. Both she and Richard have a great heart for children families and young people that I look forward to see where God takes the ministry in 2024. It was always a highlight of my job to lead services

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with Helen Wilson and Jeremy Mais. It was a privilege to lead Easter Sunday with Jeremy and gain from his love for doing a service well. It was also a huge joy to lead many an all age service with Helen who also had such a gift for doing them well. Although they are no longer with us, they still have a huge influence on my ministry and I thank God for them and all those who have supported me in the work of children and families leader

Little All Sorts

This is All Saints' group for babies and their parents and carers meeting on Monday mornings in term time for play, craft, refreshments and a bible story.

Throughout 2023 the numbers increased and we were regularly getting 15-20 children each week. We said goodbye to several regular families at the end of the summer term as their children were due to start school and nursery/pre-school. The autumn term still saw us average around 15 children a week, which is great.

We have a lovely group of parents, grandparents, and carers who bring their children. Some come most weeks and there are some we see less regularly. We are still getting newcomers every few weeks. The parents relate well to each other and are happy to welcome new members.

In the summer we were blessed to receive a sum of £500 from the rotary club as part of their dragons den style event. Thanks to Julie McGowan for attending with me. This meant that we were able to buy some new toys, pens and books for the group as well as team t-shirts. These are great at helping the families know who is a part of the team and also give opportunity to remind of the faith of those who help as the phrase on the back of the t-shirts read 'Love God, love self, love others'.

It is a great encouragement to see the families relate well to each other and support each other. The crafts are enjoyed by the children but also the parents/carers. They also enjoy the biscuits, breadsticks and squash. My highlight is seeing some of the children who are a little reluctant to begin with come out of their shell and enjoy the surroundings. Many of the parents comment how much they enjoy our group – particularly the welcome they receive.

I am so grateful for the team, they are truly wonderful and make the group a real joy. I wish to thank them formally for all that they do and the support they provide to me and the families we welcome into Little All Sorts. There is always room for more on the team so if you can help once a month, please do speak to me.

Junior Saints

We have a great team of leaders with Joanne, Jo, Helen and Immy – I wish to formally thank them for their support and leadership in 2023.

We are still using material from Roots to plan the teaching as this offers flexibility of activities for different ages. I aim to make sure that we teach on the same passage as in church so that families can share their learning when they get home. It feels like we are seeing more families week to week, but priorities do change and some we see less often. Although the children are from different schools they gel well together and are a delight to teach.

The all age slots at the beginning of the services are a great way to get all ages talking together and introducing the theme for the week. My hope is that these are just the beginnings of conversations that may continue over coffee after the service. The church is a great family to be a part of and it wonderful to see different generations encouraging each other.

In the middle of September, thanks to a booking by the Bond family, we are able to have an afternoon at The Ranch. It was a wonderful opportunity for families to get together and have a longer time chatting

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than is usually possible on a Sunday. The Ranch had great facilities for the children to enjoy and they made the most of the play equipment, animals and crazy golf.

If you would like to talk about becoming a leader with the children, please do speak to me. They children really are a delight to teach and be with on a Sunday morning.

Youth

FROG did not meet at all in 2023, but working with Maria we exploring and praying for an offering for young people during Sunday morning services twice a month.

Schools

I continue to try to deepen relationships with the two primary schools in the parish. I have done a lesson with the year 6 classes about moving on to secondary school. Our PCC kindly provided a booklet called 'It's your move' for around 90 children. It was well received and I am hoping to repeat this year. Once again I took Christmas assemblies in both schools and was working towards other lessons to go in and help but sadly the member of staff at the school I liaised with has moved on. There have been other opportunities in 2024 (90 children in for an morning of Easter activities) but that will be covered in next year's report for 2024!

Other activities

This year we were able to run Messy Nativity again which was a great success, especially with some new families and those from Little All Sorts. I must express my huge thanks for my husband and his support in my role – although I think he got just as much enjoyment from being Festive Fred at Messy Nativity as we did in seeing his spectacular Christmas Suit! Other Christmas services were well received, especially Christmas Day and the Christingle with Chris Tingle making another appearance. A knitted nativity trail in some of the local shops also took place at Christmas – thanks to the faithful sheep knitters for your skills!

A new addition to the work this year was Folly Fest and the first ever Super-teddy zipwire. Due to the weather there was a last minute change to the plans meaning we had to move inside but in hindsight this was actually a real blessing because I believe that we had many people join in who had never need inside the church before. It was a great event to plan and run and we very much hope to do similar in 2024 as it is such a wonderful way to connect with the community.

As always, the All Age services are a pleasure to lead enable families to worship together but also the wider family at All Saints. Ice-cream Sunday was a huge success again in 2023 and often attracts those we don't necessarily see at other times of the year.

Finally, I wish to thank my support group and the whole church, for all the prayer and encouragement you give to me personally and the children and families in All Saints.

Eco Church Group – *Peter Foot*

This group has been operating as a sub-committee of the PCC for about a year. Initially, its purpose was to look towards gaining a Silver Award from A Rocha/Eco Church as a natural follow-on from our Bronze Award. However, as time went on, we realised that getting a higher award was of less importance than helping the congregation to a better view of how God's creation - that bit which is clearly our responsibility - can be cherished, safeguarded and loved. All of us are broadly clear what has to be done but find that altering our own behaviours and choices is not so easy.

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In order to assist in this, the Eco Church Group reports to the PCC on what activities it is planning, or have achieved or to seek new ideas. As the regular Newsletter from our Vicar makes clear each week, we now have a planned series of Eco Tips, also shown on the welcome screens at the 10.30 Sunday service, outlining things to think about, choices to be made, guidance to be considered. At the request of the PCC, we parallel each Tip with a relevant piece from The Bible, anchoring the ideas and suggestions in scripture and thereby respecting our Creator and his marvellous gifts to us all. A particular feature for the year ahead is to provide assistance in planning the environmentally enhanced future for the Coach Lane Churchyard.

What we have warned ourselves away in all of this is to see things as a simple box-ticking exercise merely directed at enhancing our church's status with a Silver Award. If we as a church and a congregation increasingly honour our part of God's acre, a Silver Award will be the consequence, not the purpose, of the effort. The members of the Group are Mark Ritchie, Jim McGowan, Dan Butcher, Chris Hurley, Pam de Wit, Anne Gill, Pat Saunders, Tim Hewes, Jeni Summerfield, Gerald Bohm, Wendy Tynan, and Peter Foot. Please bring to any of us your concerns or with your ideas and assistance.

Social Committee – *Helen Jackson*

This committee was formed (in 2022) to help organise all the social events in the life of the church. Members; Julie McGowan, Sarah Mais, Josey and Chris Speller and Helen Jackson.

The first major event was putting on a dinner for 50 in the Barber Rooms for the applicants and their partners who had applied for the job of vicar (January)

The committee did do a survey to establish what social activities the congregation would like to see in the life of the church and these results are available. (February and March)

A welcome tea for newcomers was held to introduce new people to the life of the church. 32 people attended (April)

May was organising drinks and canapes for 200 for Maria's induction and enabling her friends to have a meal before the service.

We had a bring your own picnic in June.

Sadly we were then involved in helping with two big thanksgiving services in June and July. July also saw a tea for people living on their own – historically known as the strawberry tea. 35 people attended.

There was a bring and share lunch for the Harvest Festival on October 1st.

An Advent Tea took place at the end of November for people living on their own. 47 attended. Mulled wine and mince pies were served after the candlelit carol service for 150 people in December

All these events involve setting up the rooms, preparing food, purchasing food, clearing away, washing up, washing tea towels, cleaning the floors and organising who will do what when, in advance. Some events are more labour intensive than others. We are always looking for helpers who are willing to lend a hand so that it is not always the same people every month. Thank you to all who have worked hard in 2023 and please do contact Helen Jackson if you would be willing to be asked to help on occasions.

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CMS Link – *John Seedell*

Noemi and Marcio Ciechanovicz, Brazil

All Saints' connection and support of the Church Mission Society (CMS) has existed as long as I can remember

During 2023 our CMS mission partner, Lyn Treneary retired from her post in South Sudan and returned to the UK. We are grateful for the hard work Lyn put in to her work with communities in South Sudan and pray that she will have a healthy and blessed retirement.

Our PCC asked a small group to consider 4 new projects that had been recommended to us by CMS to replace Lyn. Through God's guidance we overwhelmingly were led to recommend the work of Noemi and Marcio who work on the edges of society in Sao Paulo, Brazil. They work with street children and addicts, the people that are often ignored by society. This resonated well with the All Saints' strapline: 'Connecting people with Jesus; sharing his love in our everyday lives.'

PCC agreed that this is the work we should support, and so a new chapter begins of All Saints' Faringdon supporting a CMS project.



You can find more information about Marcio and Noemi on the CMS notice board on the way out to the Barber Rooms where we also display letters from them.

Prayers on Friday 7.40am – 8.30am - *Helen and Mark Jackson*

This group has been going for about 40 years, started by the Scott Browns when they moved to Faringdon. It continues to take place on zoom since lockdown and the link is published every week in the church newsletter. We start by praying into a passage of scripture that is shared and then pray over a variety of subjects and situations, locally and world-wide, as the Spirit leads. We are usually 9 or 10 in number! All newcomers warmly welcomed.

Monthly Prayer Meeting – *Maria Jukes*

The monthly prayer meeting has continued on Zoom throughout the year. Prayer points are issued via the News Letter and the meeting begins with a gathered time of reflection before breaking into smaller groups for a time of open prayer.

The prayer meeting is important to continually hold the mission and ministry in the church in prayer, as well as having the opportunity to intercede for our world together. It has been encouraging to see a committed regular attendance to this, normally of around 10-15 people. Anyone able to join us would be warmly welcomed.

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Morning Prayer – Maria Jukes

This year we started in-person quite informal morning prayer 8.30am to sit alongside the existing Zoom prayer meeting on a Friday morning. Monday, Wednesday and Thursday takes place at All Saints' Pye Chapel, and Tuesday in St Mary's, Little Coxwell. We have an average attendance of 5-6 people and pray for the church, the world and those in need, on Wednesdays we particularly focus on prayer points from the Deanery prayer list. I normally take the prayer service, but at times this is led by other members of the ministry team or lay members of the church. All are welcome to join in - entrance is through the Barber Room door.

Prayer Chain – Jeni Summerfield

This is a much valued aspect of our prayer life at All Saints' with the three strands of the prayer chain continuing to work to uphold those in need before the Lord.

If you wish to make a prayer request you can speak to Maria, the church wardens or any one of the three of us. We are all happy to receive an email which is then forwarded to the three prayer chains. If however the request is extremely urgent you may make contact by phone to one of us.

If you would like to be on the prayer chain please let Jeni know and you will be added to one of the three.

Jeni Summerfield	240912
Ruth Seedell	242440
Barbara Mapley	615009

ALPHA Course – Helen Jackson

The Alpha course was held in the Barber Rooms in 2023 from January to March on 8 evenings plus a Saturday morning Holy Spirit morning. It started with a total of 19 people including helpers on two tables. We are grateful to all the helpers who made the course possible. There were volunteers who cooked a two course meal for each week, those who washed up, set up, cleared up, and prayed for all those attending. It is always a team effort and we thank those who gave of their time and resources sacrificially. Advance warning - we are planning on running another course in 2024 if you think you might be able to help in any way. Pray about it!

Home Groups – Andrew Sargent

Home Groups are all different. They can be a great way to get to know a smaller number of church members, as well as a help in strengthening our own spiritual lives and understanding. If you would like to join a group, or just to know more, drop our co-ordinator an email at andrewsargent@gmail.com or catch him over coffee after the 10.30 service.

Monday Home Group – Martin & Bridget Adams

Our Monday Homegroup meets fortnightly in Fernham during term-time and we have 9 regular members. During the first half of 2023 we completed the 'Creation Matters' course which we found very helpful and encouraged us to look at practical changes we can each make to help our environment.

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After the Summer break we explored how fruitfulness in our lives stems from being 'in Christ' and did a single session from John 15: 1-11, followed by a study of Ephesians.

We also enjoyed both a Summer and Christmas bring and share meal.

Monday Home Group – *Josey and Chris Speller*

Our group began meeting in November 2023. We meet every week during term time on a Monday evening and alternate between two hosts in Faringdon. We started off with a few stand-alone studies before following a short advent course, finishing the term with a Christmas social. We are a group of 9 and the majority have joined the church within the last year. It has been great to get to know each other better and study the bible together.

Tuesday Home Group – *Peter Foot*

The @Kay's Bible Study Group is a largely online group which meets on Tuesday mornings each week throughout the year for study and prayer. It is a strong, self-regulating group that operates by consensus and is best when study leadership is shared. As a group, we have severally enjoyed using study guides (e.g. the Cover-to-Cover series) that enable each member to lead the preparation and discussion in their own way. On occasion, the group meets via Zoom just for prayer.

Most recently, the group has been studying Tom Wright's major biography of St. Paul, in order to better understand the historical circumstances that are the setting for the immortal letters. For all, although it seemed daunting at first, this engagement with St. Paul has freshened and deepened our appreciation of both the man and his writings. The group looks forward to equivalent challenges in the year ahead.
Group,

Wednesday Home Group – *Helen Jackson*

The Jackson Home Group of 11 meets alternate Wednesdays in their home. The group prays and sings together and in 2023 did The Bereavement Journey course (thereby training up helpers to run the course in the Church in 2024), and a course called The Unity Course about Loving Disagreement amongst Christians.

Thursday Home Group – *Graham and Isobel Weller*

We have been meeting on a fortnightly basis in Katie Foot's home and we much appreciate her hospitality. The group has grown over the year to about 12 members. For the majority of the year we studied Mark's Gospel, with a break over Lent when group members joined in the CTIF study series. Andrew Sargent and Graham have generally shared leadership of sessions.

All Saints' Singers – *Karen Bruschi*

This last year has been an exciting year, welcoming Maria into our fold and discovering new songs with each other. We have endeavoured to maintain a good balance of well-known hymns and songs with some

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newer ones, using the lectionary to discover songs that enable us to worship through the Word. The Worship group remain a core team of 4 singers, Taiwo skilfully playing the bass (and singing from time to time) and Karen on keyboards and organ (again singing from time to time). We always welcome interest in musicians who want to join us, especially for the 3rd Sunday of the month when we have The Word service, but we also extend an invitation out wider for Christmas, Easter and other special occasions for more singers. These special occasions give us the opportunity to explore additional songs, and we had great fun with the Gaudete! at Christmas. This Easter we were really excited to bring No Longer Slaves into the Service, a song we have wanted to learn for a long time, a song with such meaning and realisation of what God has done for us. We look forward to the year ahead, with various special events already in the planning, including Pentecost, FollyFest and more. Please continue to pray for us as we help lead worship in our beautiful Church.

Faringdon bellringers' – *Peter Hunt, tower captain*

AGM

The tower AGM was held on April 3rd last year in the Barber Rooms on the Monday of Holy Week replacing our normal practice. Peter Hunt and Julian Watson were re-elected as Tower Captain and Steeple Keeper respectively. A new treasurer, Elin Bornemann, was elected to replace Jon Chamberlain and Daniel Watson agreed to carry on generating monthly bell ringing articles for the Faringdon Advertiser in place of Jon.

Visiting Ringers

All Saints hosted a band of ringers from Marlow on 4th March 2023. Later in the year on 9th September we welcomed a visiting band from High Wycombe led by a ringer who is known to us at All Saints. During the year we often had enthusiastic ringers attend our Monday practices, in particular a group of two or three from Highworth who still attend regularly.

VOWH Branch AGM

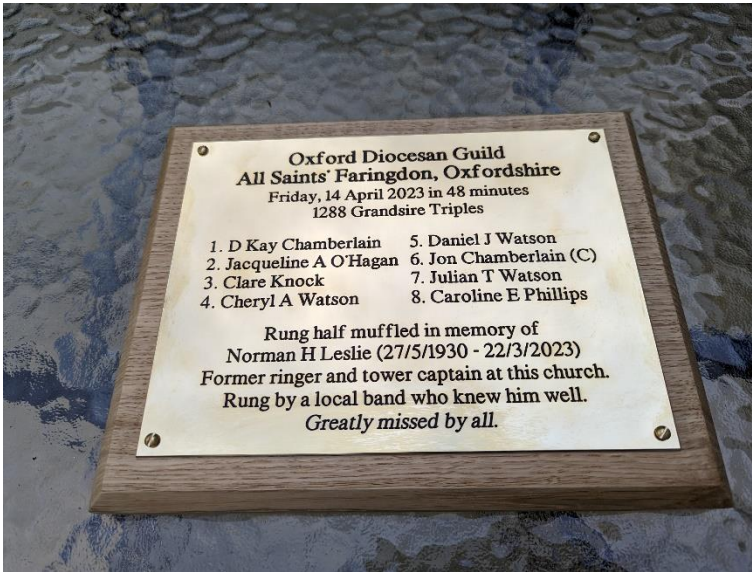
Faringdon hosted the VOWH Branch AGM on Saturday 18th March in the Barber Rooms following a ringers' service in the church and then tea. The event was very well attended. A donation was made by the VOWH Branch to the church for the use of the rooms following the church's decision to allow the rooms to be used without charge.

Funeral of Norman Leslie

For the funeral of Norman Leslie on Friday 14th April, we had open half-muffled ringing before the service (at 12.00 noon) and then rang a half-muffled quarter peal after the service coinciding with the procession to the Coach Lane cemetery and the interment. Norman was a long standing and prominent member of the ODG and Tower Captain at All Saints prior to 2006. A plaque recording the quarter peal was produced - see below - and is now mounted in the ringing room.

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Coronation of King Charles III

On Saturday 6th May we rang a quarter peal in the afternoon following the coronation in the morning and then held open ringing up to the start of festivities in the market place at 4.00 pm. Details of the ringing, together with photographs of the ringers are available on the following links:

<https://bb.ringingworld.co.uk/view.php?id=1617968>

<https://bb.ringingworld.co.uk/view.php?id=1618914>

Induction of New Vicar

On the evening of Tuesday 23rd May we rang for Maria's induction service. Ringers attended the service and I, as Tower Captain chimed the fourth bell on behalf of Maria at the relevant point in the service.

Striking Contests

Faringdon entered two teams (as did Shrivenham) in the VOWH Branch 6 Bell Striking Contest on 25th May at Shellingford. There were seven teams in total. The contests are judged on the quality of the way a test piece is rung. The All Saints teams came first and seventh, one of our teams winning for the second successive year. The judges were able to tell that we had several learners in our second team and congratulated us on their participation.

As in 2022 the winning team went on to represent the Branch at the inter-branch contest of the Oxford Diocesan Guild (ODG) which in 2023 was held on 7th October at Shipton-under-Wychwood. Unlike in 2022 we failed to win this but came third out of eight teams, still a respectable result.

Faringdon contributed four ringers to the VOWH 8 bell team in the ODG competition. Unfortunately we didn't do very well coming seventh out of eight teams.

We contributed three ringers to the VOWH 10 bell team in the ODG competition. This band came fourth out of five teams but only five of the fifteen branches entered a team.

Daniel's Peal

On Saturday 22nd July Daniel Watson, a very competent young ringer from Faringdon, rang a complex peal at All Saints lasting three hours, to celebrate his sixteenth birthday. He chose the band, including his mother Cheryl, and the ringing was of a very high standard.

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Weddings

There was only one wedding which required bells in 2023, on September 16th compared to seven the previous year. We made the most of this on one of the bells by successively using, for five minute periods each, three learners and one elderly ringer.

Training and Recruitment

Two members of the family that we recruited last year from our 'Ring for the King' campaign are still ringing and progressing well, albeit with a recent period where preparation for the Faringdon Dramatic Society pantomime took priority. We are now training a new recruit as a result of the articles in the Advertiser and her New Year's resolution 'to learn to ring' in 2024.

General

We have rung every Sunday for the 10.30am service and nearly always manage to ring all eight bells. We rang for the NSPCC Carol Service (4th December) and rang a quarter peal for the All Saints Carol Service (17th December). We had a Christmas celebration in the ringing room on the 18th December, which Maria attended and we rang for the late Christmas Eve service.

Centenary of the recast and rehang of the bells in 1926

We have scanned several photos in the ringing room from the time of the recasting and rehang of the bells in 1926. One such photo is reproduced and artificially coloured below. Starting with names on the peal boards in the tower from the time and approaching the centenary of this event we plan to try and track down families of ringers from around 1926 to see if any can be contacted.



All Saints' Flower Guild - Jeni Summerfield

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2023 was not as busy a year for the Flower Guild with only one wedding requiring flowers but we did have a number of significant events including Maria's installation and the funeral flowers for our dear friend Helen. That was a remarkable coming together of the church family as so many people donated flowers from their gardens and came to help to fill the church with the flowers that Helen would have loved.

We will continue to use a mix of fresh and silk flowers through the year and as we are even fewer in number now it keeps the work load manageable.

We would love to welcome new members, so if anyone is interested in joining us, please get in touch and come and see what we do and have a go!

Friendship Directory - Margaret Starr

This list exists so that church members can exchange telephone numbers and email addresses. To receive a copy of this list you must be on the list. There are currently 116 members on the list which is updated biennially. To be added to, or removed from, the list please contact Margaret Starr on 01367 240201 or email margaret.starr@gmail.com.

Churches Together in Faringdon – Katie Foot (President)

We were delighted to welcome Rev Maria Jukes as Vicar of All Saints' church in May and Rev Mark Greenwood as Minister of Faringdon Baptist Church in November. At last we have a full complement of clergy in our churches again. We were deeply saddened to hear of the death of Rev Jeremy Mais, after a very short illness, in early May. Although only in Faringdon since mid-2021, he was a great supporter of Churches Together and indeed took the FollyFest service and Remembrance Sunday services in 2022, as well as several services before and during the vacancy at All Saints', finishing on Easter Day 2023. Helen Wilson, LLM at All Saints' and a great supporter of CTiF during her 40 years or so in Faringdon, also died after a short illness in July and is hugely missed. Among many other activities, she regularly took services at Ferendune and Coxwell Hall Nursing Homes.

Activities we have variously organised during 2023 have included:

- Monthly columns in The Advertiser magazine (distributed to every household in Faringdon)
- Talk to Women's Fellowship at Faringdon United Church (Mustard Seed)
- Warm Spaces with lunch or tea at Blessed Hugh, All Saints' and other venues in town throughout the winter months
- Taize service at All Saints' (Earth and Faith Group)
- Five mixed Lent house groups (nearly 50 people in all), who studied the Life on the Breadline course, looking at Christian responses to different kinds of poverty.
- Fair Trade Fortnight and talk to Women's Breakfast at Stanford in the Vale (Mustard Seed)
- World Day of Prayer, hosted by Faringdon Baptist Church
- Trash and Treasure swap "Reuse and Recycle" (Earth and Faith Group)
- Palm Sunday Procession of Witness, from Faringdon United Church to the Market Place, ending with a short act of worship by Fr Bartholomew from the Carmelite Priory at Boars Hill, who was presiding at Mass at Blessed Hugh that day.
- Good Friday service at All Saints.
- Sunrise service on Easter Day on Folly Hill, with about 50 people present (this was to have been led by Rev Dick Whittington who sadly contracted Covid a few days beforehand but kindly sent his

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prepared material to the All Saints' CTiF team) followed by a delicious breakfast at Faringdon United Church.

- Christian Aid week e-collection.
- Big Green Day (stalls included Earth and Faith and The Mustard Seed).
- A new Facebook page, kindly set up by Rev Maria Jukes (do please "like" it and comment on the various posts if you are a Facebooker).
- FollyFest open air service, led by Tim Gerry, with Rev Maria Jukes preaching, an excellent drama arranged by Dominic Bullock, and Fr Claro making the intercessions.
- General support to Ukrainians and other refugees in the area and welcoming new residents at Brackendale (Sanctuary Faringdon).
- Advent Sunday service (Blessed Hugh).

Earth and Faith

In the past year the group focussed on re-using and recycling:

1 April - Trash and Treasure 'pre-loved' market throughout the town: "Re-use and Recycle. Let's reduce our carbon footprint".

17 June - Big Green Day: we took part in this annual event in the Corn Exchange organised by Faringdon Town Council. E&F chose the theme "Can we just use less?" with a focus on the impact of the clothing industry carbon footprint.

Beside our own local events we were discussing the headline issues that featured in public debate, from COP 26 to the fuel crisis; and seeking ways to engage with other local initiatives, especially the Town Council's Climate Action Group, and the deanery churches' experience of taking part in the A Rocha Eco Church programme.

EARTH & FAITH has been part of CTiF since 2014, offering a Christian focus on environmental issues. In November 2023 the group decided it was now time to disband. There is still plenty of work to do, but the issues are now much higher on the Churches' list of priorities than they once were, and we hope the energy of younger members will carry them forward. We have been grateful to CTiF for their encouragement over the years, to local ministers and church leaders for their support, and to Faringdon Town Council for their endorsement.

As the Churches in Faringdon continue to be concerned for the environment, I hope ideas and activities will also continue to be shared, so that the ecumenical dimension is not lost.

Pam de Wit

With thanks to the whole E&F Group: Dave Headey (United Church), Jenny Braithwaite (Friends), Joy Smith and previously Libby Smedley (Baptist Church), Julia Burn (All Saints'), Sjoerd Vogt and previously Mairead Boyce (Blessed Hugh).

Faringdon Food Bank

Faringdon Food Bank is run by Churches Together in Faringdon in partnership with the Town Council.

Since December 2023, following the dramatic increase in demand on food banks in general, our food bank is now managed on a part time paid basis by Adele Vincent who is supported by a small sub-committee of members representing All Saints, Faringdon Baptist Church, Blessed Hugh and Faringdon United Church.

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Our volunteers come from all denominations and none and work very effectively together to deliver a caring but efficient service to those in need. We are also in need of more volunteers, and if this is something that you feel you could do, please ask Jeni Summerfield for more information.

We continue to experience a very high demand for our services in these straitened times, with over 150 clients or families from Faringdon, Stanford in the Vale, Shrivenham and Watchfield on our records; and this has increased with the introduction of some asylum seekers being housed in the Brackendale complex off Ferndale Street.

We are always grateful for the generous donations from members of all the churches, and also of many others not connected to a church who are keen to help - especially those who donate at Waitrose and Stanford Co-op. Adele is also working hard to get even more help from other local supermarkets and has recently secured a large grant to help provide foods for us to distribute.

Jeni Summerfield – All Saints' Rep

Mustard Seed

Once again, turnover has been slower than usual though we are still in profit. Nevertheless, grants were given from the charity account to Faringdon Day Centre, Probus and Faringdon Food Bank. There is also a grant still pending to All Saints' for 50% of the cost required for planting one or two new trees in the churchyard, but a decision is still awaited from the District Council/Town Council about this work.

It was a huge blow when Traidcraft, our main food supplier (in fact, our main supplier of all Fairtrade goods for over 35 years) went into administration at the end of January 2023. Fortunately Karen Vogt had already started getting craft items from different suppliers, and also opened various food accounts with PremCrest and other suppliers to try to minimise stock gaps in our favourite items. This has not been at all easy and she's done a great job!

A second huge blow was when The Lighthouse in Highworth closed at the end of January 2024. The Seekers' Light Trust (under three shop managers, but for the past 23 years, Malcolm and Val Swift) have kept us supplied with a wonderful range of books and cards since we opened, nearly 40 years ago. Happily, we have made a new arrangement with The Cornerstone Centre at Grove.

Market stalls were run during Fair Trade Fortnight in March and on Faringdon's Big Green Days in October 2022 and June 2023. The Big Bali Bonanza in November raised nearly £1,000, which provided the profits we usually make from the hampers.

Karen and Katie Foot (shop managers) both spoke at the Women's Breakfast in Stanford in the Vale in February 2023. A small stall showed the range of products we sell and ultimately brought some new customers into the shop, as well as explaining the benefits of buying Fairtrade goods. Since then, Maz Galley, one of the church wardens at St Denys', has kindly re-started the monthly sale in Stanford.

We miss Margaret Gutsell, Emily Smith and Liz Kilpatrick (a founder volunteer!), who have recently retired after many years of serving in the shop. Happily, Maureen Courtney has taken on "Emily's Tuesdays" and Ann White has joined the team. Additionally, Ben Jukes gave us some great extra help over the summer holidays.

Our shop staff are wonderful and so reliable – as is Kath Thacker, who keeps us in clean towels each week. Our condolences to her, following David's death earlier in the year. We are also very appreciative of our window dressers for their attractive displays, and of Lois Chell for her hard work keeping the books in order and arranging for the accounts to be audited by Alder Demain Akers free of charge.

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We were very sad to hear that Barbara Caldecourt, widow of Rev Dr Len Caldecourt, one of the founders of The Mustard Seed, died in May, and Bob Plumptre, widower of Joan Plumptre, another founder, died in September. They were both great supporters and regular customers

Sanctuary Faringdon

Work has continued helping and befriending the Ukrainians, including the monthly "Gathering" at Faringdon Baptist Church.

In May 2023, Host Abingdon referred a young Eritrean woman to us with a nearly 3 year old autistic son who had been placed in temporary accommodation in Faringdon Travelodge by the District Council while they sorted out a flat for her. She was far away from her support network and the child's nursery in Abingdon (a multiple bus ride) and without cooking facilities or even a fridge in her room. One of the team invited her to cook at their house, so she could at least feed her child reasonably most days. Fortunately she was able to return to Abingdon after 5 weeks and is now settled in her own apartment.

In November, Host Abingdon alerted us that the house in Abingdon was being cleared of women and children. It transpired that Brackendale (Ferndale St/Lansdown Rd) had been taken over by the Home Office for asylum seekers (mostly couples or single women with children, who moved in over the following 2-3 months). There was very little information as to who was coming and when, but we are gradually getting to know them and welcome them. Father Claro and Blessed Hugh have been very generous in offering special meetings, meals, and access to WIFI on a Friday morning. Faringdon Baptist Church are now hosting an English class with creche on a Monday afternoon. The residents (around 20 families of various sizes) are also being introduced as best we can to the Food Bank and The Pump House Project, the Library, schools, The Place and so on. The staff at the Tourist Information Centre have also been most helpful. As each individual or family gets their own Leave to Remain, they will be moved out of Brackendale and into temporary accommodation for a certain number of weeks while working their way up the housing ladder. It is hard to get to know them, or get them together, as the community room in Brackendale is out of bounds (the landlord proposes to make two more units out of it but no work has started to date).

World Day of Prayer 2023

On Friday March 3rd 2023, the Baptists in Faringdon hosted ecumenical services at 3pm and 7.30pm to celebrate the World Day of Prayer (WDP). This annual worldwide Day of Prayer is held on the first Friday in March and has been celebrated in England since 1932 (in Faringdon since 1965). It takes approximately 38 hours for the service to be repeated right around the world starting and ending in Samoa. This year approximately 55 people from all of the denominations in Faringdon gathered over the course of the two services, to lead the service and share fellowship together.

This year's service was written by the ladies in Taiwan on the theme "I have heard about your faith", based on Ephesians 1 v 15-19. Several examples of the faith and service of women overcoming adverse situations to serve God were used to demonstrate how God's power in our lives can enable us to do great things. We were reminded that this power from God is still available for each of us today in our journey through life.

The service was enhanced by a beautiful display using materials inspired by the Taiwan ladies with traditional artwork and photographs.

We give thanks to God for the generous offering of £205 towards the work of WDP and our brothers and sisters around the world.

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May God bless you richly,

Sharon Gerry 2023 Branch Secretary (Faringdon Baptist Church)

The Barber Garden – *Janet Deane*

The Barber Garden is to your left when accessing the Barber Rooms from outside.

Each year taking care of the Barber Garden is a challenge: persistent weeds and insufficient help to bring the area into a pleasant place to wander around and to experience a sense of tranquillity.

After a request for volunteers, in November, there was a tidy up and the area is now looking better. I have, reluctantly, needed to say that I cannot continue to help.

I sincerely thank all those who have contributed over the last 6+ years - the Barber Garden is yielding to the care and attention given and which it deserves.

ALL SAINTS' PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023
Statement of financial activities

2022 £	Notes	General funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total £	
<u>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS</u>							
138,208	Voluntary Income	2a	131,240	-	25,531	-	156,770
	Activities for generating funds		-	-	-	-	
5,467	Income from Investments	2b	1,194	-	5,836	-	7,030
12,258	Church Activities	2c	11,337	-	-	-	11,337
	Other income		-	-	-	-	-
155,932	TOTAL INCOME		143,770		31,367		175,137
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>							
57	Raising Funds	3a	72	-	-	-	72
	Church Activities						
12,962	- Missionary and Charitable Giving	3b	12,232	-	802	-	13,034
68,885	- Diocesan Parish Share (£67203, less refunds)		63,451	-	-	-	63,451
78,563	- Other activities	3c	52,717		25,650		78,366
220	Governance Costs	3d	220	-	-	-	220
160,687	TOTAL EXPENDITURE		128,692	-	26,452	-	155,144
(4,755)	NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) BEFORE INVESTMENT GAINS/(LOSSES)		15,078		4,915		19,993
(26,536)	NET GAINS ON INVESTMENT ASSETS (on revaluation)	11		1,077	9,081	12,042	22,199
(31,290)	NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		15,078	1,077	13,996	12,042	42,193
-	TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS		-	-	-	-	-
-	- Move £750 from General Fund to CL Designated		(750)	750		-	-
-	- Move £6300 from Celia Walker Fund to General Fund		6,300		(6,300)	-	-
-	(pay for repairs in 2023)					-	-
(31,290)	NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		20,628	1,827	7,696	12,042	42,193
815,896	Total funds brought forward 1 January		515,098	11,071	130,449	127,988	784,605
784,605	Total funds carried forward 31 December		535,726	12,898	138,145	140,029	826,798

ALL SAINTS' PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023
Balance sheet as at 31 December 2023

2022 £		Notes	General funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total £
Fixed assets							
475,880	Tangible fixed assets	7	470,440	-	-	-	470,440
214,114	Investment assets	8	-	12,898	85,136	140,029	238,063
<u>689,994</u>	Total fixed assets		<u>470,440</u>	<u>12,898</u>	<u>85,136</u>	<u>140,029</u>	<u>708,503</u>
Current assets							
0	Stock		-	-	-	-	-
0	Debtors (tax recoverable)	9	-	-	-	-	-
74,889	Short term deposits		36,123		53,009		89,132
19,722	Cash in hand and at bank		29,163	-		-	29,163
<u>94,612</u>	Total current assets		<u>65,286</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>53,009</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>118,295</u>
Liabilities(Creditors): amounts falling due within one year							
0	Interest Free Loans		0	-	-	-	0
0	Barber Rooms costs	10	0	-	-	-	0
<u>94,612</u>	Net current assets		<u>65,286</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>53,009</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>118,295</u>
Liabilities(Creditors): amounts falling due after one year							
0	Interest Free Loans		0	-	-	-	0
<u>784,605</u>			<u>535,726</u>	<u>12,898</u>	<u>138,145</u>	<u>140,029</u>	<u>826,798</u>
Funds of the church							
Unrestricted funds							
515,098	General fund		535,726	-	-	-	535,726
11,071	Designated fund	12	-	12,898	-	-	12,898
<u>526,168</u>			<u>535,726</u>	<u>12,898</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>548,624</u>
130,449	Restricted funds	11	-	-	138,145	-	138,145
127,988	Endowment fund	11	-	-	-	140,029	140,029
<u>784,605</u>	Total funds of the church		<u>535,726</u>	<u>12,898</u>	<u>138,145</u>	<u>140,029</u>	<u>826,798</u>
-			-	-	-	-	-

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 9th April 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

Maria Jukes
Vicar, All Saints Church

Dr David Wilson
Treasurer, All Saints Church

ALL SAINTS' PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

Notes to the accounts

2022		2023				
Total funds	2 INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total funds
£		£	£	£	£	£
2a Voluntary Income						
Planned Giving:						
65,534	Tax - efficient planned giving (excl. tax)	68,451	-	-	-	68,451
19,545	Tax recovered/recoverable	20,544	-	1,955	-	22,499
20,184	Other planned giving (bankers order and payroll)	16,245	-	-	-	16,245
6,265	Collections of loose cash at services	7,661	-	-	-	7,661
	Legacies	-	-	-	-	-
14,990	Children & Families Leader Contributions (ODBF etc)	-	-	22,775	-	22,775
1,039	Grants Received towards activities	-	-	-	-	-
	Youth Work Related Donations	-	-	-	-	-
	Mission Fund Donations	-	-	-	-	-
	Little All Sorts Donations	687	-	-	-	687
6,439	Other donations (Gift Aided)	7,984	-	304	-	8,288
4,127	Other donations (Non Gift Aided)	9,667	-	497	-	10,164
85	Wall Safe/Cask etc.	-	-	-	-	-
138,208		131,240	-	25,531	-	156,770
Activities for generating funds						
	Fetes, Bazaars, Other fund-raising events	-	-	-	-	-
2b Investment Income						
971	Deposit accounts (CBF, CAF, Virgin)	671	-	1,812	-	2,482
4,496	CBF Investment Account Dividends	523	-	4,024	-	4,548
5,467		1,194	-	5,836	-	7,030
2c Incoming resources from charitable activities						
9,834	Fees - weddings, funerals etc	8,148	-	-	-	8,148
	Church magazine	-	-	-	-	-
2,424	Room Hire	3,189	-	-	-	3,189
12,258		11,337	-	-	-	11,337
Other incoming resources (If required)						
		-	-	-	-	-
3 EXPENDITURE						
3a Raising Funds						
57	Stewardship Campaign. Gift Aid Envelopes etc.	72	-	-	-	72
3b Missionary and Charitable Giving (see note 6)						
9,663	Overseas Mission, Relief & Aid	7,790	-	500	-	8,290
2,554	Home Missions	3,022	-	252	-	3,274
745	Secular Charities	1,420	-	50	-	1,470
12,962		12,232	-	802	-	13,034
3c Church Activities						
731	Ministry: Clergy Expenses	620	-	-	-	620
	Curate Costs	-	-	-	-	-
28,317	Children & Families Leader	8,183	-	24,650	-	32,833
1,582	Other Staff & Expenses	890	-	-	-	890
4,371	Church Cleaning	5,414	-	-	-	5,414
3,559	Heat Light & Water	3,354	-	-	-	3,354
450	Telephone & Wi-Fi	590	-	-	-	590
5,113	Insurance	6,427	-	-	-	6,427
565	Repairs & Maintenance: Organ & Bells	-	-	500	-	500
13,596	Other (mainly Quinquennial work)	6,333	-	500	-	6,833
	Church Development	607	-	-	-	607
632	Cost of church services	2,114	-	-	-	2,114
2,803	Upkeep of Churchyard	1,675	-	-	-	1,675
	Magazines Expenses	-	-	-	-	-
635	Training, Mission & Education	1,499	-	-	-	1,499
5,440	Depreciation charge for year (Barber Rooms etc.)	5,440	-	-	-	5,440
	Other expense items (£100 Petty Cash written off)	-	-	-	-	-
10,770	Admin, Printing, Stationery, Bank Charges	9,568	-	-	-	9,568
78,563		52,717	-	25,650	-	78,366
3d Governance Costs						
220	Audit fees, legal advice, PCC meetings	220	-	-	-	220
4 STAFF COSTS						
46,117	Wages & Salaries	46,117				
4	Average no. of employees	4				

During the year the PCC employed a Children and Families leader, an administrator, a cleaner (and for most of the year a 2nd clean
There were no P11D employee benefits paid to any staff in this, or previous, years

ALL SAINTS' PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

Notes to the accounts

5 Trustee remuneration and expenses - related parties

No members of the PCC received any remuneration for their work on the PCC. The clergy, who are ex officio members do receive a stipend but are not remunerated for their service on the PCC. No PCC members claimed expenses although they would be entitled to claim travel costs for attending meetings.

6 Grants made - grants were made to the following institutions:

Christian Aid	900.00	CMS	3000.00
Wycliffe Bible Translators	240.00	Royal British Legion	400.00
INF (Pokhara Hospital)	650.00	Interserve	1200.00
Scripture Union	450.00	The Bible Society	450.00
The Children's Society	950.00	Simeon's Trustees	240.00
Tear Fund	900.00	Torch Trust	120.00
WATSAN	900.00	Faringdon Food Bank	50.00
Gaza Appeal (Tear Fund)	500.00	A Rocha	900.00
Root & Branch/Pennyhooks Farm	900	Bishop's Outreach Fund	284.20

2022 TOTAL

12962.00	TOTAL	13034.20
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No grants were made to individuals.

7 Tangible fixed assets (all unrestricted)

	Freehold land & buildings	Fixtures fittings & equipment	Other	Total
Cost or valuation	£	£	£	£
At 1 January 2023	500,000	2,200	-	502,200
Additions/Disposals	-	-	-	-
Revaluations	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2023	500,000	2,200	-	502,200
Depreciation				
At 1 January 2023	25,000	1,320	-	26,320
Charge for year	5,000	440	-	5,440
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2023	30,000	1,760	-	31,760
Net book value				
At 1 January 2023	475,000	880	-	475,880
At 31 December 2023	470,000	440	-	470,440

8 Investment assets

Fixed asset investments	£
Carrying (market) value on 1 January 2023	214,114
Add additions at cost/value	-
Less disposals at carrying value	-
Net gain/(loss) on revaluation	23,949
Market Value - 31st December 2023	238,063

9 Debtors and prepayments (no amounts were due in more than one year)

Amounts falling due within one year	
2023	2022
£	£
0	0

10 Creditors and accruals (no amounts were due in more than one year)

Amounts falling due within one year	
2023 £	2022 £
0	0
0	0

11 Endowment and restricted funds

	Fund balances b/f	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Gains and losses	Fund balances c/f
	£	£	£	£	£
Endowment funds					
Craven/Rawlings/John Wright (Inv A/C)	19,814	-	-	1,864	21,678
Haines/Spinage (Inv A/C)	3,151	-	-	297	3,448
Celia Walker Fund (Inv A/C)	105,022	-	-	9,881	114,903
	127,988	-	-	12,042	140,029
Restricted funds					
Chamberlain (Organ Fund) (Invest)	58,883	0	0.00	7,399.04	66,282.32
Chamberlain (Organ Fund) (Deposit)	848	27.00	297	0.00	578.50
Celia Walker Fund (Deposit)	23,756	4,323	1,000	0.00	27,079.45
Celia Walker Fund (Invest)	12,582	1,000	-	1,230.85	14,813.03
Bell Ringers Fund (Deposit)	4,270	230	218	(0.00)	4,281.66
Fabric Fund (Quinquennial grants etc.)	8,507	273	-	(0.00)	8,779.53
Accrual for tax refund	0	-	-	0.00	0.00
Mission Fund (Deposit)	16,982	544	-	0.00	17,526.09
Boffin (Bells, clock, chimes) (Inv)	3,590	-	-	451.07	4,040.83
Boffin (Bells, clock, chimes) (Deposit)	1,031	33	-	(0.00)	1,063.74
	130,449	6,430	1,515	9,081	144,445.15

12 Designated Funds

	£	£	£	£	£
Coach Lane Investment Fund	11,071	750	-	1,077	12,898

Independent Examiner's Report to the Parochial Church Council of ALL SAINTS'

I have examined the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet and related notes.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC (Charity trustees) and Independent Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

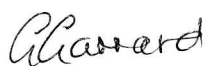
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention

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

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or

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

Gill Garrard
5th March 2024
Independent Examiner
3 Stanford Road
Faringdon
Oxon SN7 7AQ



Accounts

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC) OF ALL SAINTS' FARINGDON

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AIMS and PURPOSES

All Saints' PCC is responsible, in co-operation with the Vicar, and for the latter part of 2022 with the PCC Lay Chair, for promoting the whole mission of the Church – pastoral, evangelistic and social – within the ecclesiastical parish, and for maintaining the fabric of All Saints' Church and Coach Lane cemetery.

The PCC of All Saints' Faringdon is a corporate body established by the Church of England and operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The PCC exceeds the limits for exception from registering with the Charity Commission and is therefore registered under the name of "The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of All Saints' Faringdon" (Charity No. 1134401).

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. The membership of the PCC consists of the Vicar/Lay Chair, Licenced Lay Ministers, Churchwardens, Deanery Synod representatives and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the church. All those who are members of our congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC is aware of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in "The advancement of Religion for the Public Benefit" and have regard to it in the administration of the parish.

The PCC believes that, by fulfilling its responsibility to work together with the Vicar/Lay Chair and co-operating in all matters of concern and importance for the promotion of the whole mission of the Church, it provides a benefit to the public, both to individuals and to society as a whole, by: providing resources and facilities for public worship, pastoral care and spiritual, moral and intellectual development, both to its members and for anyone who wishes to benefit from what the church offers; promoting Christian values and the service by members of the church to their communities.

To facilitate this work, it is important that we also maintain the fabric of both All Saints' church and the Barber Rooms.

This review summarises the life of All Saints' church during the calendar year 2022 and highlights a number of events and activities. Again this year, those responsible for many of the church's activities have been invited to contribute.

The PCC met 6 times during 2022, with an average attendance of 15 (out of 19) members. During the year the following served as members of the PCC, ex-officio, elected or invited to attend.

Ex officio members:

Lay Chair	Linda Ritchie
Licensed Lay Minister	Helen Wilson Graham Weller
Church Wardens	Linda Ritchie Mark Jackson
Deanery Synod Reps	Peter Foot John Seedell Margaret Starr

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Elected Members (members are elected for three years)

Until APCM 2023	Kate Crebbin Chris Horley Joanne Raybone Dave Wilson
Until APCM 2024	Laura Bond Jim McGowan Helen Jackson Mark Jackson
Until APCM 2025	Janet Deane Katie Foot Immy Newcome Alun Watkins
Children's & Families' Leader (Co-opted)	Josey Speller
Hon Treasurer	David Wilson
Hon Secretary	Mandy Hathway

PCC Lay Chair's Report

2022 saw the retirement of our Vicar, Revd Dr J Stephen Bellamy, on 31 July after six years of unstinting service to the Lord and to us at All Saints' and St Mary's. His final service was followed by a hog roast lunch in lovely weather in the Wilson's beautiful garden attended by over 100 people all of whom were grateful for Steve's ministry and wished him and Wendy well in their retirement.

Thankfully we have had a full year of our usual services. In March, we began to take wine as well as bread at communion, there didn't seem to be any further need for recorded services so these finished on 8 May and the 9am service returned to the Pye chapel in the autumn.

We are delighted that Little All Sorts baby and toddler group restarted in May and has become much appreciated by many carers and their charges. Our thanks to Josey and her team for their loving support of this group. We pray that our relationships with these families will deepen. Numbers at Junior Saints are beginning to increase but sadly FROG (for teenagers) has not been meeting in the second half of the year.

God has been good in bringing several retired (and even one not retired) clergy to our congregation who have wonderfully covered most of the communions, baptisms, weddings and funerals during the vacancy. Our licensed lay ministers and children's and families' leader have ably led all-age and morning prayer services.

More details of the year are in the churchwardens' report.

Steve introduced a weekly newsletter sent by email during lockdown and this has continued as the main means of communication of news and events to church members. For the few who don't use email, the contents of the email are voice-recorded and can be heard by dialling a local number 01367 700 501.

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PCC worked hard in the second half of the year preparing to advertise our vacancy for a vicar. Following interviews in January 2023, we were delighted that Revd Maria Jukes has been appointed and will join us following her licensing service at 7.30 on 23 May.

I am so grateful to you and to God for the many contributions you make to our life at All Saints' and it's lovely to see new people being welcomed by you into our fellowship.

May we grow closer to each other and to the Lord in 2023 and point others to Him.

Financial Review for 2022 – *David Wilson*

Total receipts on unrestricted funds were £126,447 of which £79,718 was unrestricted planned voluntary donations, and a further £17,731 was from Gift Aid. Restricted income and donations (including gift aid) of £29,485 were also received. Of this, £14,990 is a grant from the ODBF, covering half the cost of our Children & Families leader Josey Speller. No legacies were received in 2022.

£134,848 was spent from unrestricted funds to promote the whole mission of the church within the parish and beyond. Our diocesan parish share of £70,112 was paid in full (£68,885 after rebates received for paying by direct debit and because the deanery share for the first half of the year was paid in full before the end of July). Donations to missions and charities of £12,962 were made.

Overall funds decreased by £31,290 during the year. There was a significant fall in the General Fund of £8,631. Designated, Restricted and Endowment funds also all decreased in value due to reductions in the value of funds invested in the stock market.

PCC Reserves Policy – *David Wilson*

The PCC needs to hold reserves as it has fixed (and usually rising) expenditure each year to cover expenditure such as Parish Share, Parochial expenses, Insurance, Repairs and Maintenance, Gas/Electricity/Water to support church services with no guaranteed income.

The risk of income not arising each year to cover these core expenditure items is small (there are a reasonable number of committed/planned givers who provide a good base level of income each year).

The PCC believe that reserves amounting to between three and six months of annual expenditure on the items above is reasonable to cater for a downturn in income as well as providing an appropriate level of funds to cover expected buildings expenditure. This would equate to around £33,000 to £66,000 on 2022 general expenditure.

The PCC currently has reserves (unrestricted and designated) within this range.

It is our policy to invest the short-term investment fund balances with the CCLA Church of England Deposit Fund, and the remainder typically in the CCLA Church of England Investment Fund.

Church Fabric Report - *Jim McGowan*

The two big changes over the past year have been the upgrade to the church electrics and the installation of a new noticeboard. The electrical work covered the replacement of safety fuses, circuit breakers and light switches throughout the church, including in the tower. The work was required urgently and our insurers were keen to see it completed. Lumos Electrical Services required uninterrupted access to the church for a number of days (thanks to everyone for coping with this disruption!) and we're very pleased with their work.

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The new noticeboard was installed at the beginning of March 2023. A small working group had been asked by the PCC to produce a design that would have a positive visual impact on passing drivers, passengers and pedestrians and didn't have information that would get out of date. We wanted to convey that we are a vibrant church, eager to welcome newcomers at whatever stage of faith. Thanks to everyone involved in the working group, and especially our graphic designer Kitty Marlow.

In May 2022, twelve PCC members spent a morning visiting three local churches that had recently completed reordering projects – these visits provided a lot of helpful information on both the work that had been done and the whole reordering process. At All Saints', we already have excellent kitchen facilities and toilets, so our priorities are probably a more flexible and inviting seating, a welcome area for newcomers and improved lighting. Our hope is that by creating a more flexible space we will encourage greater use of the building, both by the church and the wider community. Currently, we are putting any ideas on hold until we've had an opportunity with our new vicar to assess our priorities.

Our immediate fabric priorities over the next year are to look at overhanging branches at the western end of the church, some internal redecoration to address damp-related problems and completing the work in the churchyard with the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. Slightly longer term, we will also need to consider conservation work on the South Door.

Thank you to everyone on the Fabric Group for all their work over the past year – for looking after the heating system, organising regular maintenance and servicing, changing inaccessible light bulbs, removing weeds and cutting back shrubs, sorting out repair jobs and everything else! We are extremely grateful for all that you do to look after our wonderful buildings.

Coach Lane Cemetery – Wendy Tynan

Sorting rubbish and putting out Coach Lane bins was maintained during lockdown, but with the lifting of restrictions, work in the cemetery could begin in earnest and longstanding projects returned to.

There was a big backlog of clearing and tidying of the graves to be done, the removal of invading tree and other climbers growing in the yew trees, ivy to be cut back and removed where necessary.

To help with all this I engaged Mark Church, who was just beginning to learn about gardening. His enthusiasm, dedication and strength were invaluable, and gradually over the year the cemetery became tidier. With considerable help from Mark work has begun on raising sunken graves, by planting grass seed on added soil and righting toppling headstones, Sadly Mark has moved on, but still returns from time to time to work on a voluntary basis.

Both hedgerows have been worked on, but hedge bordering the field has had a second of three prunes to take place over three years. All the pruned material is being put back at the base of the hedge to provide protection for insects and small birds. Some of the bigger spaces left where tender new plants put in several years ago were unable to survive the attention of grazing cattle will be replaced after next year with less palatable trees!

Other work done includes the repair of a breach in the lime and mortar wall between the cemetery and the adjoining cottage garden. The hole was rapidly made inaccessible for children and animals and cordoned off by Mark Jackson. Pat Saunders kindly arranged for the fallen stone to be rebuilt and the wall made good.

In the same corner of the cemetery Mr Radcliff has done a beautiful job of rebuilding and repointing the top third of one of the lime and mortar pillars to the main entrance, and with the help of a welding friend of his, the wrought iron gate which had to be moved to do the work was rehung.

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This gate had earlier been taken off site some time before, for sand blasting, treating and repainting, but the contractor has still to return to complete the work by fitting the latch and closure fittings he removed for their safety. The contractor has since moved on to work with steel on big projects, so it is becoming of some concern that he will find time to complete the gate for us, and it is possible that a request will have to be made for the return of the missing pieces so that another craftsman can complete the job in his place.

It was estimated that the original gate in complete state was worth between £5000-6000 so the return of the original pieces is desirable.

The diocese has had the rotting and collapsing fence previously held together by ivy along one side of the Vicarage garden replaced with new panels, which has made a tremendous difference to the whole appearance of the “old” cemetery.

Other work in progress will be reported next year

It remains for me to thank everyone who has helped in the cemetery. There are many volunteers I've not mentioned by name, some whose names I don't know, who do so much to keep the cemetery such an ordered and pleasant place to visit.

Deanery of the Vale of the White Horse – *Peter Foot*

In June 2022, the Archdeaconry Mission and Pastoral Committee for the Dorchester Area, approved the Deanery synod's Mission Action Plan. This a complicated way of saying that what the Synod members want for all the 27 churches in the Deanery is going ahead.

The setting for this activity has three points of influence. The first is the weekly prayer cycle that, in April 2023, will begin its third year. This has been of defining assistance in enabling our discernment as to what is important for the Deanery to work on.

Secondly, there is a need to overcome an instinctive lack of appreciation of 'The Diocese' in many quarters. There are some understandable reasons for this but the Deanery is committed to using its best efforts to help overcome it. The Diocese has many things on offer that can significantly help parishes with their own agendas, often the result of serious prayer about what a particular church needs to do to honour God's intentions and gifts.

Thirdly, there is a tendency in any large organisation to feel that it is driving things and that its initiatives ought to be followed by smaller elements within the structure. The Deanery's aspiration is to provide the Diocese with supportive and/or corrective inputs so as to reinforce where things are going well and to suggest rethinking where things are wrong or might not have taken local positions quite enough into account.

Put another way, the Deanery wishes to do everything to protect what the Holy Spirit is inspiring local churches to do and to make sure parishes are aware of what the Holy Spirit is moving the Diocese to do.

The Deanery plan of work ahead will concentrate on five areas:

- The Rural Church strand from the Diocese, sponsored by our Bishop Gavin: how to make village churches thrive, including using their churchyards imaginatively.
- Facilitate Parish Share payments so as to provide help for those parishes that are really struggling.
- Move forward with the establishment of a School Chaplain at Faringdon Community College, able to serve almost all of the children in the Deanery.

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- Help village churches with technology and all forms of communication to ensure (i) better mission outreach and (ii) as few as possible are left out of the church circle.
- Protecting the environment through Eco Church and other initiatives. There is a growing list of churches in the Deanery – not least All Saints', Faringdon! – now given a Bronze Award. The Deanery aim is to see the continued spread of this engagement with climate protection. With the help of the Earth & Faith Group, it is hoped that the other churches in Faringdon will follow this example.

Your Great Faringdon Deanery Representatives for the past year have been Margaret Starr, Henry Boddington, John Seedell and Peter Foot.

Safeguarding – Helen Wilson

We continue our work at All Saints' to do our utmost to ensure that our church is a safe place for all.

Helen Wilson had to take a break from the role of church Safeguarding Officer, with responsibility for children, from September 2022 to date because of ill health, but is resuming the role again now. Isobel Weller continues as the church Safeguarding Officer with responsibility for vulnerable adults and in the interim oversaw all aspects of safeguarding. Alison Scott, the Church Administrator, is the Safeguarding Recruiter/Verifier. Together with the Safeguarding Officers, Alison maintains and monitors all the safeguarding records, as well as undertaking the associated administration.

Josey Speller, the Children and Families Leader, oversees the different children's groups and liaises with Helen as necessary, ensuring amongst other things that the safer recruitment procedures are carried out for all new volunteers.

The Safeguarding Dashboard, provided by the diocese, is an excellent tool and we continue to use this. It clarifies the steps required to work towards the safest possible environment, and gives links to the latest documentation. This also produces an action plan, which is shared with the PCC at intervals.

As we have been in an inter-regnum since July 2022, it has not been possible to have the usual safeguarding meetings with the incumbent. However, the Safeguarding team have continued to be responsive and pro-active. They have responded to a small number of concerns (children and adults) raised over the past year, involving the diocese and external agencies where necessary.

Julie McGowan continues to be the Children's Advocate.

Church Warden Review of the Year 2022 – Linda Ritchie & Mark Jackson

What a difference a year makes!

2022 saw many changes over the previous year with the continuing relaxation of Covid 19 restrictions and as we returned to some sense of normality in our lives and at church. We had two live services each Sunday (gradually without masks), tea and coffee after the 10:30 service and singing! Online services were produced as well until 8 May.

Events in 2022

Early in January, a **Christingle** service with Christingle kits to take home.

In March, **Bishop Steven Croft** visited for a deanery special evening service.

For the first time since lockdown, we were able to hold all our usual **Easter services**: Maundy Thursday, Good Friday Reflections at the Cross and an All-Age service on Easter Sunday followed by Easter egg hunt.

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In May, we held a **Christian Aid** service and later in the month **Bishop Gavin** came to preach. Early in June, we held a **platinum jubilee** all age service after which 40 or so of us enjoyed a bring and share lunch together. Later in June we hosted the **archdeacon's visitation** service for the admission of church wardens in the deanery.

In July, All Saints along with Churches Together in Faringdon held an **open air service** in the Market Place as part of the Folly Fest weekend.

In September, there was an **Ice cream Sunday/e** and on 18th a special **commemoration service** for Her Majesty the Queen Elizabeth II who died on 8 September. Many thanks to Dick Whittington for organising and leading this at short notice.

The **Allsaintstide** service was the last Sunday in October and in November there was a **Remembrance** service following which we met at the town war memorial. Also, in November **Bishop Gavin** was due to conduct a service of confirmation of young FROG members, but sadly the candidates withdrew. Nevertheless, Bishop Gavin kindly came and preached and encouraged us.

In December, we held a **Messy Nativity** arranged by Josey and on the 18th we held a **Carols by Candlelight** service (with real candles) followed by mulled wine and mince pies.

Also returning this year was the traditional **Christmas** Eve midnight communion service followed by an All Age Christmas jumper service on Christmas Day.

Steve's retirement

At the APCM on 3 April, it was announced that Steve Bellamy was planning to retire. His final service was on the 3 July and he retired on the 31 July. We can only thank God for the six years that Steve served with us here at All Saints & St Mary's. His leading and teaching and presentation skills, especially through the times of Covid when we were unable to meet as a family in the church building can only be described as exemplary. We are grateful for all that he has done. We were able to celebrate his leaving with a garden party and hog roast in Dave and Helen Wilson's back garden. Thanks to them and the kind donor of the hog!

Other happenings in 2022

Much to Linda's relief, at the APCM in April, Mark Jackson joined Linda Ritchie as **church warden**.

We saw the reintroduction of social events and the formation of a 'social events team' who will be reporting separately.

In May some members of the PCC visited a number of churches in Oxfordshire that have in recent years undergone **reordering** works on their church buildings. We are grateful to those churches for welcoming our group and sharing their experiences. Following the retirement of Steve, we have put our plans in this respect on the 'back burner' as we would like to involve the ideas of our new vicar in such a project.

In March, we reintroduced **taking wine** as well as bread at communion services. We obtained individual wine cups for health reasons and then from January 2023 have returned to the **communion rail** at the high altar at the 10:30 services.

We note with sadness the deaths in 2022 of George Abell, Judy Crouch, Pat Norton and Diana Spillar. We rejoice with those who were married in All Saints' this year many of whom had had to cancel previous arrangements. We welcome those who were baptised and other newcomers who have joined us during the year.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC) OF ALL SAINTS' FARINGDON

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Finding a new vicar

In July, we formed a Parish profile committee charged with preparing a draft Parish Profile for the approval of the PCC. Our thanks to Josey Speller, Joanne Raybone, Jim McGowan, Helen Wilson and Mark Jackson for their work in producing the new profile based on a series of SWOT analysis and questionnaires sent to PCC members, congregation members and the wider community. The profile was presented to the PCC on 27 September and after some adjustment and improvements it was completed. On 6 October a section 11 meeting was held and the PCC agreed to appoint Linda Ritchie and Mark Jackson as All Saints parish representatives and the Parish Profile was approved. At the section 12 meeting on 24 October, the patron (Simeon's Trustees), the acting Archdeacon and PCC members discussed the Profile and PCC agreed to a programme of advertising for the post of vicar and advertisements went online in November and in print in December.

Thank you

It just remains for us to thank all of those who have so faithfully served in our church during 2022. Special thanks to Dave Wilson our treasurer, Josey and her team of helpers in the children's work, Jim McGowan and his fabric team, Helen Jackson and the social events team, Jeni Summerfield and the flower guild team, Karen and Ruth and their music group, Chris Raybone on the sound desk, Alison our parish administrator, Peter Hunt and his award winning team of bell ringers, our fabulous team of retired clergy: Paul Winchester, Barbara Mapley, Dick Whittington, Jeremy Mais, Chris Etherton as well as (not-retired) David Pickering, LLMs Helen Wilson and Graham Weller as well as our children and families leader, Josey, who have kept our church services going during this time of vacancy.

Grateful thanks to all those who have served on the PCC, to our team of assistant wardens/vergers at both the 9 o'clock and 10.30am services and those who have verged at weddings and funerals especially Julia Doolan who has done the lion's share. Our thanks go to our team of welcomers, readers and intercessors.

In addition, our thanks to the many who work behind the scenes: our two cleaners Caroline and Sue, those on the kitchen rota, graveyard maintenance, keeping the boilers running, paths swept, the list could go on.

We want you all to know that we appreciate you all! All Saints would be the less without you!

Many hands make light work and we are always looking for more hands to help. Please consider whether God is calling you to participate in serving in some way within the church. All areas are short of hands and some like FROG (our work with the youth) have had to close due to lack of helpers. Please speak to Linda or Mark or Alison, our administrator, if you are able to assist in any way.

ACTIVITIES

Children and Families Leader Report – Josey Speller

My second year at All Saints has been an encouraging one. I very much enjoyed working with Steve until his retirement. Being in a vacancy is a challenge to the church as well as for me, but there have been reasons to be positive this last year.

Little All Sorts

This is All Saints group for babies and their parents and carers. We began meeting again in May 2022. They meet on Monday mornings during term time for play, craft, refreshments and a bible story.

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It was a slow start in the first term but numbers picked up in September. We have a lovely group of parents, grandparents, and carers who bring their children. Some come most weeks and there are some we see less regularly. We are still getting newcomers every few weeks. The parents relate well to each other and are happy to welcome new members. Numbers vary from 10-18 families on average each week.

The children are always happy to come in and we have a good range of toys for them to play with. Crafts are enjoyed by both children and adults. The most encouraging thing has been to see relationships develop between those who come and the leaders. It has also been great to see some crossover into church activities – especially Messy Nativity.

I am so grateful for the team; they are truly wonderful and make the group a real joy. I wish to thank them formally for all that they do and the support they provide to me and the families we welcome into Little All Sorts. There is always room for more on the team so if you can help once a month, please do speak to me.

Junior Saints

The children attend Junior Saints in the Barber rooms during morning services, offering bible teaching and activities for primary school aged children. We have a great team of leaders with Joanne, Jo, Helen and Immy – I wish to formally thank them for their support, especially while I was off sick in the Autumn term of 2022.

Our numbers of children can still vary from week to week but our average has increased to 4-10 children a week. We have had 3 new families join us which is encouraging and bring a great atmosphere to the group. The majority of the group are 4-8 year olds. We try to give any older ones who come some responsibilities such as reading the story or helping the younger ones. Eventually it would be great to be able to offer a group for the 8+ ages.

We also enjoy welcoming children of baptism families or those visiting families in Faringdon. The uncertainties of these weeks can be a challenge but we are learning to be flexible with the teaching and it is great to be able to show them what Junior Saints can offer.

We have signed up to another year of the Roots materials which is working well. We are able to use the resource for both Junior Saints and the All Age services.

I am currently running a questionnaire for the Junior Saints parents to gain their feedback on the provision we are offering. I hope to share these with the PCC soon and open a wider conversation about children coming in for communion and the other times that they are in the church services.

If you would like to talk about becoming a leader with the children, please do speak to me. They children really are a delight to teach and be with on a Sunday morning.

FROG - Josey Speller/Alun Watkins

Fully Rely On God (FROG), is our group for young people (11 to 14 year olds) in the church. During the year we did meet and began confirmation training. However, despite several young people being keen, for various reasons the course wasn't finished and some of the young people felt the timing wasn't right for them.

We tried to meet again in September, but numbers were low and enthusiasm for the group was mixed. After great input and leadership, Kate, Peter and Andrew have all stepped down from leading. I wish to thank them and am grateful for all the work and love they showed the young people of our church. With only Alun and I as leaders, it has not been possible to sustain the group since October 2022.

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Schools and other activities

I am trying to deepen relationships with the two primary schools in the parish. I did a lesson with the year 6 classes about moving on to secondary school. Our PCC kindly provided a booklet called 'It's your move' for around 90 children. It was well received and I am hoping to repeat this year. Due to my appendicitis I was not able to do as much with the schools over Christmas as planned, but I was able to take a Christingle assembly in both Folly View and The Elms just before Christmas.

This year we were able to run Messy Nativity which was a great success, especially with some new families. Other Christmas services were well received, especially Christmas Day and the Christingle with Chris Tingle making a special appearance.

I have thoroughly enjoyed leading All Age services with Helen and other members of the church. These services may not always have a huge attendance of families but I believe they are vital and it's important to enable the whole church family to worship together.

In the coming year I wish to look at developing more intergenerational worship and provide other opportunities to develop relationships with the children and families of our church. I am also looking forward to new areas of ministry from working with our new vicar in the year ahead.

Finally, I wish to thank Steve, Helen Jackson (as my current line manager), my support group and the wider church, for all the prayer and encouragement you give to the children and families in All Saints.

Social Committee – *Helen Jackson*

This was initially set up at a PCC meeting in May 2022 at the suggestion of Mark Jackson. The committee is now a group of 5/6 people who conducted a survey in January 2023 to find out what social activities the church would like to see.

Social events organized since the last APCM were Steve's Farewell HogRoast (June 2022 – thanks to a very generous member of the congregation) a bring and share summer lunch, (August 2022,) a Harvest Festival Bring and Share lunch, (October 2022) an Advent Tea for people living on their own (November 2022) and Mulled Wine and Mince Pies following the Carols by Candlelight Service (December 2022). Since it is often the same people providing refreshments, planning, setting up, washing up, we are hoping that the survey will bring forth a fresh crop of volunteers to participate in social events.

Church Prayer Meeting – *Linda Ritchie*

We have continued through the year to meet for about half an hour on Zoom on the first Wednesday of the month in the church prayer meeting. We have a short introduction from someone different each month and then we split into groups of 4 or 5 to pray over items suggested in a prayer list available through the weekly email or any other concern.

In some ways, it's a token recognition of our need to rely on God at all times and supplements our prayers on Sundays, when we pray alone and when we pray with others.

Rejoice always, **pray continually**, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. 1Thes 5:16-18

CMS Prayer Group – *Colin Slater*

The Covid restrictions compromised the prayer group for CMS's meetings since when members have moved away or died and the venue became unavailable.

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Perhaps the matter could be re-explored but apart from the display for the mission of the month, no further activity has taken place.

The parish secretary did contact me about this recently. It may be worth re-exploring ways forward e.g. availability of space in the Barber Rooms or Asset Room may be possible as a venue?

Prayers on Friday 7.40am – 8.30am - *Helen and Mark Jackson*

This group has been going for about 40 years, started by the Scott Browns when they moved to Faringdon. It has been taking place via zoom since the beginning of lockdown and will probably remain this way as it is easier for most people. New people have started attending this year and we are always open to new people joining. We are now a regular group of 9 since Jan died. Please contact Helen Jackson for the zoom link information if you would like to join in. We start by praying into a passage of scripture that is shared and then pray over a variety of subjects and situations, locally and world-wide, as the Spirit leads.

Home Groups

Monday Homegroup – Bridget Adams

Our Monday Homegroup met fortnightly in Fernham during term-time. We were delighted to welcome some new friends and now have 10 regular members.

We started 2022 with the 'Living in Love and Faith' course. After Easter we discussed the Hannah Steele book 'Living His Story' along with the accompanying videos which present practical ways to share the gospel in our everyday lives. At the end of the summer term we enjoyed a bring and share meal.

In the Autumn we started the Verna Birkey book 'Trust Me - Learning to trust that God is good and in control even when life is difficult'. A very interesting book which some were enjoying more than others. Consequently, we opted to cease it as a group study and members who enjoyed it could read it as individual study.

We also had an evening of favourite scriptures, prayers, songs or poems chosen by each member and shared with the group which we found most encouraging. The homegroup year ended with a Christmas bring and share meal.

Tuesday Home Group – *Peter Foot*

The @Kay's Bible Study Group, meeting on a Tuesday morning, continues to gather online as this, for the moment seems best to suit the membership. We studies Isaiah before going on to the ReSource-provided material on Prophecy. Our Advent readings and discussion were inspired by the Group members. The New Year saw us study I Timothy under the heading of 'Healthy Churches - Effective Christians'. We look forward to more explorations in 2023.

Thursday Home Group – Graham and Isobel Weller

We have been meeting generally on a fortnightly basis. The meetings for the first part of the year were on zoom, while latterly we have returned to in person meetings at Katie Foot's home and we much appreciate her hospitality. The group has consisted of about ten members, with some members taking time out as needed, and others joining us. In the Autumn Andrew Sargent led a course on the prophet Hosea and now we are looking at Mark's Gospel.

Home Group – Helen and Mark Jackson

Our group started in January 2022. Since then one member has got married and moved and one member has died suddenly. After we finished the Living in Love and Faith course, we studied 'The Prophecy Course'

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by Keith Powell, available online at ReSource for Anglican Renewal Ministries. We progressed slowly but thoughtfully through the booklet. We had a day retreat as a group at Harnhill Manor at which Keith Powell was speaking. We usually sing a couple of worship songs (with a video) and pray for one another. We are currently considering what to study after Easter. We are a group of 11.

All Saints' Singers – Karen Brusch

This year has been a year of exploration for the Worship Group at All Saints; we have added some new voices to our group, and hopefully you have noticed the additional harmonies on a Sunday morning! We also expanded our group over the Christmas period to sing new songs and allow us to take on songs requiring more voices. Many thanks to all the singers / musicians for their dedication, and to Chris Raybone for supporting us on sound.

For me, this journey has been an inspiration; how willing the Worship Group has been to try new songs, or sing well known songs in a different way; I hope that the congregation have also enjoyed the opportunity to be introduced to new songs before the service or during Communion. It has been lovely to have the words up before the Service, during Communion and after the Service, allowing people to join in as they wish.

Of course, we also had the joy of helping to lead worship at the Platinum Jubilee thanksgiving service; then later in the year, to take part in the Commemoration Service for the late Queen.

We are already rehearsing for Easter, and thinking about the Coronation weekend, and what we might sing for Maria's Induction service.

I am always happy to hear of any suggestions you may have for songs! Some suggestions may start to creep in to the monthly Prayer & Praise services, in addition to Sunday mornings.

Faringdon bellringers' – Peter Hunt, tower captain

AGM

The tower AGM was held on April 11th last year on the Monday of Holy Week instead of our normal practice. The Tower Captaincy was transferred from Claire Knock to myself following the meeting.

Weddings

We rang for a total of seven weddings last year between June and December. One, on September 10th, was for All Saints bell ringer Andrew and his bride Susanna. The couple have now left the parish to live in Swindon. However we do still see Andrew from time to time. We managed to ring eight bells for all weddings and the general standard of ringing for these was good, sometimes excellent.

We have voted to raise our wedding fees for this year.

Platinum Jubilee

We attempted an eight bell Quarter Peal for the Jubilee on the afternoon of Friday 3rd June. We managed to ring 800 well-struck changes of the 1260 attempted.

VOWH Branch Practice

Faringdon hosted the VOWH Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild (ODG) monthly Practice on Monday 27th June.

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Visiting Ringers

All Saints entertained a full peal (over three hours long) from a prestigious national ringing society, the Ancient Society of College Youths (ASCY) on Thursday 7th July. A complex mixture of methods (spliced) was rung. The standard of ringing was first class, as expected. Two of our band members belong to this society but were not involved in the peal.

We had a group of visiting ringers on an outing from Wimbledon on Saturday 16th July and we will have hosted a group from Marlow on 4th March this year. During the year we welcomed visiting ringers at our Monday practices, sometimes on a regular basis.

Striking Contests

Faringdon entered two teams in the VOWH Branch 6 Bell Striking Contest on 19th May at Hinton Waldrist. These contests are judged on the quality of the way a test piece is rung. The better team from Faringdon came first, beating the better team from Shrivenham by just half a point. The same Faringdon band then went on to win the ODG 6 Bell Competition at Shaw-cum-Donnington (just outside Newbury) on 1st October beating the best of six other branch teams from the three counties which make up the ODG. A highlight of this was that our winning test piece was conducted by fifteen year old band member, Daniel Watson.

We contributed three ringers to the VOWH Branch 10 bell striking contest band. This band came second in the Guild Striking Contest on 26th November.

Death of HM Queen Elizabeth 2nd

We were planning to ring a quarter peal for Andrew and Susanna's wedding on Friday 9th September when the death of the Queen was announced. We half-muffled the bells, rang the quarter as planned and altered the dedication to the memory of the monarch. This was also the 25th quarter peal together of mother and son Cheryl and Daniel Watson. On Monday 19th September, the day of the funeral we tolled the tenor bell continuously from 10.00 to 11.00am in five and ten minute slots involving eight different ringers.

National Heritage Day at All Saints

We had six ringers, in two shifts of three, stationed at three locations in All Saints on the National Heritage Day of 17th September; namely the nave, the area below the ringing room and the ringing room itself. We also arranged supervised access to the eight bells in the belfry via the ladder in the ringing room. We introduced ourselves to visitors in the nave, gave those interested an explanation of bell ringing in the area below the ringing room and then allowed them to sample the basics of handling a bell in the actual ringing room. Those inquisitive enough were able to climb to the belfry to see the bells.

Outing

Jon Chamberlain organised an outing to various towers around and including Malmesbury on 24th September. This was judged a success by those who attended (I was unable to go myself).

Recruitment

Faringdon ringers designed a poster in November with a 'Ring for the King' theme in line with the national campaign for recruitment of ringers for the Coronation on 6th May. This was displayed in about twenty locations around the town and also one in Littleworth. Success of the poster so far has been limited but has resulted in four individuals representing three generations of one family now learning to ring – grandmother, mother and twin children – proving that age is not an insurmountable barrier to bell ringing.

An article in the 'Advertiser' appears every month, written by Jon Chamberlain and invariably extends an invitation to anyone to come to the tower for service ringing or on a practice night to witness our ringing.

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General

We have rung every Sunday for the 10.30am service. We also rang for the NSPCC Carol Service (5th December) and the All Saints carol (18th December) and Christmas Eve services. We have a regular practice from 7.30 to 9.00pm on Mondays. In addition we currently have a practice on a Thursday from 7.00pm with up to five bells silenced to enable beginners to learn how to handle a bell.

All Saints' Flower Guild - *Jeni Summerfield*

2022 was a very busy year for the Flower Guild as there were many weddings and blessings with couples playing 'catch-up' following the previous two years of restrictions.

We arranged fresh flowers for 11 Weddings or Blessings through the year in addition to our usual pattern for Easter, Harvest, Remembrance Sunday, All Saints and Christmas. We also did special arrangements for the late Queen's memorial service.

In the spaces between all these weddings we used our silk flower arrangements to keep both the workload and costs down only using fresh flowers for these special occasions. We did the usual Advent wreath and Christmas decorations for the Carol Service, whilst adding more lights and candles for a Christmas wedding.

In these challenging financial times it seems appropriate to work in this way as it's both cost effective, and greener to not be using expensive fresh flowers every week. Also as we are even fewer in number now that some of the team have had to step back for health reasons, it keeps the work load manageable.

We would love to welcome new members, so if anyone is interested in joining us please get in touch and come and see what we do and have a go!

Friendship Directory - *Margaret Starr*

The Friendship Directory list is a voluntary exchange of telephone and mobile numbers by members of the church. There are 112 people on the list. It will be updated later this year.

Churches Together in Faringdon – *Katie Foot*

We were pleased to resume the Easter Day sunrise service in 2022, led by Faringdon United Church, followed by breakfast kindly provided by Blessed Hugh parishioners. [At Easter 2023, All Saints' will lead the service and Faringdon United Church will provide breakfast.]

The invasion of Ukraine by Russia on 24 February 2022 shocked the world and as a result of the British Government's Homes for Ukraine programme, the Faringdon Refugee Group reformed as Sanctuary Faringdon. From mid-April onwards, a number of families sponsored refugees so by the end of the year, some 25 families (100+ individuals) were welcomed into Faringdon and the Vale. Sjoerd Vogt, Helen Wilson and Katie Foot took the main lead in encouraging sponsorship and helping with visa, school and Universal Credit applications and coordinating extremely generous offers of furniture, clothing, TEFL lessons etc. Faringdon Baptist Church (Tim and Sharon Gerry and team) offered a weekly "Gathering" on a Tuesday late afternoon so the Ukrainians could get to know their compatriots in the area. This has proved hugely helpful. We are so grateful to all those who have given of their time, money and goods and particular thanks are due to Cllr Bethia Thomas, the County, District and Town Councils, Faringdon Learning Trust and other schools in the Vale, White Horse (Faringdon and District) Rotary Club, Faringdon Rugby Union Football Club, Faringdon Tennis Club, the Leisure Centre and Faringdon Foodbank for their generosity.

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The FollyFest open air service was held on the Sunday morning in the Market Place once again, and we were pleased that several Ukrainian guests were present, and able to display some of the artwork of Maria Gummena. The service was led by Tim Gerry (Faringdon Baptist Church) and Rev Jeremy Mais from All Saints' preached on the theme of Gods Amazing Grace. Later in the year, Fr Claro Conde also arranged a Ukrainian concert at Blessed Hugh at which some of our very talented guests shared their music with us and offered a delicious Ukrainian buffet afterwards.

Katie Foot joined the main CTiF committee in September as Mark Jackson needed to step back because of his responsibilities during the vacancy at All Saints'.

The AGM took place in October in the Barber Rooms, led by the outgoing Chair, Margaret Bradberry of Faringdon United Church. It transpired that it was All Saints' turn to chair and Katie Foot was duly elected (somewhat to her surprise!). Jeni Summerfield stood down as Secretary, having held the post to great effect for several years and now having significant other CTiF responsibilities as lead of Faringdon Food Bank. However, as Paul Padley, the new Blessed Hugh representative was unable to be present (and it is Blessed Hugh's turn to nominate a Secretary), Jeni kindly agreed to keep a weather eye on things until a new Secretary was appointed. Jonathan Mapley continues as Treasurer.

The Barber Garden – *Janet Deane*

The Barber Garden is to your left when accessing the Barber Rooms from outside.

This area was created with the building of the Barber Rooms; before then it was a wild space in which an oil tank was the main feature. For me it's like a Cloister, surrounded (mostly) by stone walls. A tranquil place punctuated by the rhythm of the church clock.

I have been involved with its upkeep for about 5 years, with help from Jon Chamberlain, Bob McIntosh and Ian Anslow.

My vision is for a Herb Garden, for which it is well suited as the soil is poor. However the pernicious weeds need removing – a task almost completed. Thanks to the generosity of Joseph Weller there are spring bulbs naturalising and small shrubs and other plants are making a home there.

The work is on-going and I hope to put in herbs this year. I would very much like families involved as this would help to pass on the benefits which the Barber Garden offers. There's a gigantic Bug House waiting to be completed! Whether you have talents to offer or would enjoy learning new skills – do join in when you can.

Mustard Seed – *Katie Foot*

The repairs to the flat roof at the rear of the shop were finally carried out in the spring of 2022, together with replastering and redecorating the rear storage area and toilet with new flooring for this area as well. The front of the building was also repainted and this has greatly enhanced the look of the street, especially with the new shop, Tribe Zero-Waste, next door. The latter is a great addition to the town and complements the Mustard Seed well.

We still deeply miss Mairead Boyce, who was such a key member of the Mustard Seed team from its inception in 1986 until her death in January 2022.

The shop was open all year, from 9am to 1pm Mondays to Saturdays, except for December when we were also able to remain open until 4pm Tuesdays to Saturdays.

Market stalls were run by Karen and Sjoerd Vogt during Fair Trade Fortnight in March and on Faringdon's Big Green Day in October.

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Karen gave a talk to the Women's Fellowship at the United Church in the autumn, and she and Katie both spoke at the Women's Breakfast in Stanford in the Vale in February 2023. At both events, a small stall showed the range of products we sell and ultimately brought some new customers into the shop, as well as explaining the benefits of buying Fairtrade goods.

Overall, turnover has been slower than usual in 2022 though we are still in profit. Even Christmas sales were not as buoyant as in previous years, including Christmas postage stamps. Karen's Christmas Hamper orders, however, helped to boost the figures.

Nevertheless, grants were given from the charity account to Faringdon Day Centre, Probus and Faringdon Food Bank. There is also a grant pending to All Saints' for 50% of the cost required for planting one or two new trees in the churchyard, but a decision is still awaited from the District Council/Town Council about this work.

It was a huge blow to hear that Traidcraft, our main food supplier (in fact, our main supplier of all Fairtrade goods for over 35 years) would be going into administration at the end of January 2023. Fortunately Karen had already started getting craft items from different suppliers, and we also opened a food account with PremCrest so we are trying not to have too many gaps in our regular stock.

We remain deeply grateful to Malcolm and Val Swift for the very important contribution that Seekers' Light offers to making The Mustard Seed the successful Christian witness it is in Faringdon. Val comes over virtually every week to check the cards and Malcolm is always at the end of the phone for queries and orders of books.

We are also very appreciative of our window dressers for their attractive displays, Kath Thacker for keeping the towels fresh every week, and Lois Chell for keeping the books in order and arranging for the accounts to be audited by Alder Demain Akers free of charge.

We remain very grateful for the support from members of the All Saints' congregation, both as volunteers and customers – long may that continue!

Faringdon Food Bank - *Jeni Summerfield*

The Faringdon Family Centre title no longer exists as the only functioning part of it now is the food bank and the charity's name and bank accounts have been changed to reflect this.

Faringdon Food Bank is still organised by representatives from four of the Faringdon Churches under Churches Together in and Around Faringdon, in partnership with the Town Council, and it operates with a team of volunteers from both within and without the churches.

The Food Bank is based in the Pump House (the Council building in the Market Place) and is open on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays between 10.00 am and midday, which is also the time when donations may be dropped off at the Tourist Information Centre.

Our clients are referred by many agencies e.g. the Medical Centre, schools, Social Workers, Citizens Advice and other supporting organisations. Clients are given a voucher to come to us and are able to make six collections following each referral. This means they should be getting appropriate financial support and advice during their time of need, and it helps to reduce the stress of having to continually go to the agency supporting them whilst also reducing the workload of the agencies many of whom are already overstretched and our volunteers!

We are able to function through the generosity of local church members, the public, schools, Rotary and other organisations who donate money or suitable foodstuffs. We shop weekly at a local supermarket and

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monthly at a wholesale supplier to enable us to feed many families. We also have generous donations from the customers at Waitrose where a donation box is available for the public to put items.

Our team of volunteers work tirelessly and generously often delivering to those who live in the villages and who have no transport but with the number of people we support we need to recruit more volunteers.

If you would like to know more about this valuable and unfortunately necessary work please get in touch with Jeni Summerfield (240912) for more information or Jonathan Mapley (615009), CTiF and Food Bank treasurer, if you would like to make a financial contribution.

Earth & Faith - Pam de Wit

EARTH & FAITH, now in its 10th year, offers a Christian focus in the church and town of Faringdon for developing our understanding and care of the environment. We are a channel of information and ideas, and a witness of Christian concern for environmental issues.

ACTIVITIES

As the Covid pandemic slowly recedes the E&F group has been continuing to hold its meetings by Zoom.

Events organised since last May:

We decided to **focus on Biodiversity and Wildlife-friendly Gardening** in 2022.

In June an enthusiastic group of walkers took part in an updated version of our tour of **Church Gardens and Graveyards in Faringdon**.

On 1 October we partnered once more with Faringdon Town Council to promote a **Big Green Day** in the Corn Exchange. It was very well attended and reached many of Faringdon's new residents with a wide variety of stalls representing businesses and organisations in Faringdon that are concerned with the environment. **Earth & Faith's own stall** set out our 9 Top Tips for Greener Gardening.

During January and February 2023 we offered two bright moments in a chilly winter; an ecumenical candle-lit **Taizé Service** at All Saints, with the theme *The Earth is the Lord's*; and a **Mulled Wine and Poetry evening** by Zoom on the theme *The Good Earth*.

As this report goes to press we are advertising a **Springtime 'Trash and Treasure' Giveaway** during the first weekend in April, to encourage re-use and recycling.

Beside our own local events we have been discussing the headline issues that feature in public debate, from COP26 to the present fuel crisis; and seeking ways to work with other local initiatives, especially the Town Council's Climate Action Group, and local churches' experience of taking part in the A Rocha Eco Church programme.

We are grateful to CTiF for their encouragement, and to local ministers and church leaders for their support, and to Faringdon Town Council for their endorsement and help with publicity and printing costs. Thanks also to the ecumenical co-ordinating group who plan and organise our events:

Pam de Wit (All Saints')

Dave Headey (United Church)

Jenny Braithwaite (Society of Friends)

Joy Smith (Baptist Church)

Julia Burn (All Saints')

Sjoerd Vogt (Blessed Hugh)

ALL SAINTS' PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022
Statement of financial activities

2021 £		Notes	General funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total £
	<u>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS</u>						
131,664	Voluntary Income	2a	113,403	-	24,804	-	138,208
	Activities for generating funds		-	-	-	-	
4,357	Income from Investments	2b	786	-	4,681	-	5,467
8,965	Church Activities	2c	12,258	-	-	-	12,258
	Other income		-	-	-	-	-
144,986	TOTAL INCOME		126,447		29,485		155,932
	<u>EXPENDITURE</u>						
68	Raising Funds	3a	57	-	-	-	57
	Church Activities						
14,360	- Missionary and Charitable Giving	3b	10,675	-	2,287	-	12,962
68,885	- Diocesan Parish Share (£70112, less refunds)		68,885	-	-	-	68,885
44,526	- Other activities	3c	55,011		23,552		78,563
200	Governance Costs	3d	220	-	-	-	220
128,038	TOTAL EXPENDITURE		134,848	-	25,839	-	160,687
16,948	NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) BEFORE INVESTMENT GAINS/(LOSSES)		(8,401)		3,646		(4,755)
31,780	NET GAINS ON INVESTMENT ASSETS (on revaluation)	11		(1,460)	(7,999)	(17,076)	(26,536)
48,728	NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(8,401)	(1,460)	(4,353)	(17,076)	(31,290)
-	TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS		-	-	-	-	-
-	- Move "Restricted" LAS funds back to General Fund		269		(269)	-	-
-	- Move £500 from General Fund to CL Designated		(500)	500		-	-
-						-	-
48,728	NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(8,631)	(960)	(4,622)	(17,076)	(31,290)
767,167	Total funds brought forward 1 January		523,729	12,031	135,071	145,064	815,896
815,896	Total funds carried forward 31 December		515,098	11,071	130,449	127,988	784,605

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Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022
Balance sheet as at 31 December 2022

2021 £		Notes	General funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total £
Fixed assets							
481,320	Tangible fixed assets	7	475,880	-	-	-	475,880
240,277	Investment assets	8	-	11,071	75,055	127,988	214,114
<u>721,597</u>	Total fixed assets		<u>475,880</u>	<u>11,071</u>	<u>75,055</u>	<u>127,988</u>	<u>689,994</u>
Current assets							
0	Stock		-	-	-	-	-
2,518	Debtors (tax recoverable)	9	-	-	-	-	-
70,944	Short term deposits		19,495		55,394		74,889
20,836	Cash in hand and at bank		19,722	-	-	-	19,722
<u>94,298</u>	Total current assets		<u>39,218</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>55,394</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>94,612</u>
Liabilities(Creditors): amounts falling due within one year							
0	Interest Free Loans		0	-	-	-	0
0	Barber Rooms costs	10	0	-	-	-	0
<u>94,298</u>	Net current assets		<u>39,218</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>55,394</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>94,612</u>
Liabilities(Creditors): amounts falling due after one year							
0	Interest Free Loans		0	-	-	-	0
<u>815,896</u>			<u>515,098</u>	<u>11,071</u>	<u>130,449</u>	<u>127,988</u>	<u>784,605</u>
Funds of the church							
Unrestricted funds							
523,729	General fund		515,098	-	-	-	515,098
12,031	Designated fund	12	-	11,071	-	-	11,071
<u>535,760</u>			<u>515,098</u>	<u>11,071</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>526,168</u>
135,071	Restricted funds	11	-	-	130,449	-	130,449
145,064	Endowment fund	11	-	-	-	127,988	127,988
<u>815,896</u>	Total funds of the church		<u>515,098</u>	<u>11,071</u>	<u>130,449</u>	<u>127,988</u>	<u>784,605</u>
			-	-	-	-	-

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 23 March 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

Linda Ritchie
Churchwarden and Acting Chair, PCC

Dr David Wilson
Treasurer

ALL SAINTS' PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022

Notes to the accounts

2021				2022		
Total funds	2 INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total funds
£		£	£	£	£	£
	2a Voluntary Income					
	Planned Giving:					
72,518	Tax - efficient planned giving (excl. tax)	59,534	-	6,000	-	65,534
21,096	Tax recovered/recoverable	17,731	-	1,814	-	19,545
18,029	Other planned giving (bankers order and payroll)	20,184	-	-	-	20,184
3,103	Collections of loose cash at services	6,265	-	-	-	6,265
	Legacies	-	-	-	-	-
3,730	Children & Families Leader Contributions from ODBF	-	-	14,990	-	14,990
	Grants Received towards activities	1,039	-	-	-	1,039
	Youth Work Related Donations	-	-	-	-	-
	Mission Fund Donations	-	-	-	-	-
169	Little All Sorts Donations	-	-	-	-	-
7,582	Other donations (Gift Aided)	5,289	-	1,150	-	6,439
3,653	Other donations (Non Gift Aided)	3,277	-	850	-	4,127
1,784	Furlough payments from HMRC	-	-	-	-	-
	Wall Safe/Cask etc.	85	-	-	-	85
131,664		113,403	-	24,804	-	138,208
	Activities for generating funds					
	Fetes, Bazaars, Other fund-raising events	-	-	-	-	-
	2b Investment Income					
36	Deposit accounts (CBF, CAF, Virgin)	274	-	697	-	971
4,321	CBF Investment Account Dividends	512	-	3,984	-	4,496
4,357		786	-	4,681	-	5,467
	2c Incoming resources from charitable activities					
7,970	Fees - weddings, funerals etc	9,834	-	-	-	9,834
	Church magazine	-	-	-	-	-
995	Room Hire	2,424	-	-	-	2,424
8,965		12,258	-	-	-	12,258
	Other incoming resources (If required)	-	-	-	-	-
	3 EXPENDITURE					
	3a Raising Funds					
68	Stewardship Campaign. Gift Aid Envelopes etc.	57	-	-	-	57
	3b Missionary and Charitable Giving (see note 6)					
8,175	Overseas Mission, Relief & Aid	8,400	-	1,263	-	9,663
2,855	Home Missions	1,705	-	849	-	2,554
3,330	Secular Charities	570	-	175	-	745
14,360		10,675	-	2,287	-	12,962
	3c Church Activities					
1,459	Ministry: Clergy Expenses	731	-	-	-	731
(3,000)	Curate Costs	-	-	-	-	-
7,210	Children & Families Leader	13,327	-	14,990	-	28,317
470	Other Staff & Expenses	1,582	-	-	-	1,582
3,451	Church Cleaning	4,371	-	-	-	4,371
2,428	Heat Light & Water	3,559	-	-	-	3,559
391	Telephone & Wi-Fi	450	-	-	-	450
5,278	Insurance	5,113	-	-	-	5,113
688	Repairs & Maintenance: Organ & Bells	-	-	565	-	565
8,056	Other (mainly Quinquennial work)	5,599	-	7,997	-	13,596
523	Church Development	-	-	-	-	-
1,807	Cost of church services	632	-	-	-	632
1,398	Upkeep of Churchyard	2,803	-	-	-	2,803
	Magazines Expenses	-	-	-	-	-
1,216	Training, Mission & Education	635	-	-	-	635
5,440	Depreciation charge for year (Barber Rooms etc.)	5,440	-	-	-	5,440
100	Other expense items (£100 Petty Cash written off)	-	-	-	-	-
7,611	Admin, Printing, Stationery, Bank Charges	10,770	-	-	-	10,770
44,526		55,011	-	23,552	-	78,563
	3d Governance Costs					
200	Audit fees, legal advice, PCC meetings	220	-	-	-	220
	4 STAFF COSTS					
10,599	Wages & Salaries	42,517				
3	Average no. of employees	4				

During the year the PCC employed a Children and Families leader, an administrator, a cleaner (and for most of the year a 2nd cleaner). There were no P11D employee benefits paid to any staff in this, or previous, years.

ALL SAINTS' PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022
Notes to the accounts

5 Trustee remuneration and expenses - related parties

No members of the PCC received any remuneration for their work on the PCC. The clergy, who are ex officio members do receive a stipend but are not remunerated for their service on the PCC. No PCC members claimed expenses although they would be entitled to claim travel costs for attending meetings.

6 Grants made - grants were made to the following institutions:

Christian Aid	840.00	CMS	3360.00
Wycliffe Bible Translators	225.00	Royal British Legion	250.00
INF (Pokhara Hospital)	1345.00	Interserve	1120.00
Scripture Union	225.00	The Bible Society	840.00
The Children's Society	1100.00	Simeon's Trustees	225.00
Tear Fund	840.00	Torch Trust	110.00
WATSAN	670.00	Faringdon Food Bank	175.00
DEC Ukraine Appeal	1263.00	A Rocha	210.00
		Dorchester Minister's Charity	164.00

2021 TOTAL

14359.50	TOTAL	12962.00
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No grants were made to individuals.

7 Tangible fixed assets (all unrestricted)

	Freehold land & buildings £	Fixtures fittings & equipment £	Other £	Total £
Cost or valuation				
At 1 January 2022	500,000	2,200	-	502,200
Additions/Disposals	-	-	-	-
Revaluations	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2022	500,000	2,200	-	502,200
Depreciation				
At 1 January 2022	20,000	880	-	20,880
Charge for year	5,000	440	-	5,440
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2022	25,000	1,320	-	26,320
Net book value				
At 1 January 2022	480,000	1,320	-	481,320
At 31 December 2022	475,000	880	-	475,880

8 Investment assets

Fixed asset investments	£
Carrying (market) value on 1 January 2022	240,277
Add additions at cost/value	1,500
Less disposals at carrying value	(1,128)
Net gain/(loss) on revaluation	(26,536)
Market Value - 31st December 2022	214,114

9 Debtors and prepayments (no amounts were due in more than one year)

Debtors and prepayments (no amounts were due in more than one year)	Amounts falling due within one year	
	2022 £	2021 £
Accrued income - tax refund due	0	2,518

10 Creditors and accruals (no amounts were due in more than one year)

editors and accruals (no amounts were due in more than one year)		Amounts falling due within one year
	2022 £	2021 £
Accruals	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
	0	0

11 Endowment and restricted funds

	Fund balances b/f £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Fund balances c/f £
Endowment funds					
Craven/Rawlings/John Wright (Inv A/C)	22,458	-	-	(2,644)	19,814
Haines/Spinage (Inv A/C)	3,572	-	-	(420)	3,151
Celia Walker Fund (Inv A/C)	119,034	-	-	(14,012)	105,022
	145,064	-	-	(17,076)	127,988
Restricted funds					
Chamberlain (Organ Fund) (Invest)	66,052	0	1,128	(6,041)	58,883
Chamberlain (Organ Fund) (Deposit)	281	1,132	565	-	848
Celia Walker Fund (Deposit)	20,976	3,781	1,000	-	23,756
Celia Walker Fund (Invest)	13,178	1,000	-	(1,596)	12,582
Bell Ringers Fund (Deposit)	4,188	191	109	-	4,270
Fabric Fund (Quinquennial grants etc.)	8,396	110	-	0	8,507
Little All Sorts fund	269	0	269	-	0
Accrual for tax refund	0	-	-	-	0
Mission Fund (Deposit)	16,761	220	-	0	16,982
Boffin (Bells, clock, chimes) (Inv)	3,952	-	-	(362)	3,590
Boffin (Bells, clock, chimes) (Deposit)	1,017	13	-	0	1,031
	135,071	6,448	3,072	(7,999)	130,449

12 Designated Funds

	£	£	£	£	£
Coach Lane Investment Fund	12,031	500	-	(1,460)	11,071

Independent Examiner's Report to the Parochial Church Council of ALL SAINTS'

I have examined the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet and related notes.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC (Charity trustees) and Independent Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

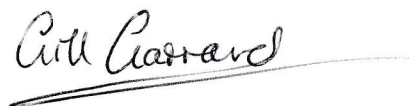
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention

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

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or

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

Gill Garrard
28th February 2023
Independent Examiner
3 Stanford Road
Faringdon
Oxon SN7 7AQ



Accounts

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC) OF ALL SAINTS' FARINGDON

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AIMS and PURPOSES

All Saints' PCC is responsible, in co-operation with the Vicar, for promoting the whole mission of the Church – pastoral, evangelistic and social – within the ecclesiastical parish, and for maintaining the fabric of All Saints' Church and Coach Lane cemetery.

The PCC of All Saints' Faringdon is a corporate body established by the Church of England and operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The PCC exceeds the limits for exemption from registering with the Charity Commission and is therefore registered under the name of "The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of All Saints' Faringdon" (Charity No. 1134401).

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. The membership of the PCC consists of the Vicar, Licenced Lay Ministers, and Curate, Churchwardens, Deanery Synod representatives and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the church. All those who are members of our congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC is aware of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in "The advancement of Religion for the Public Benefit" and have regard to it in the administration of the parish.

The PCC believes that, by fulfilling its responsibility to work together with the Vicar and co-operating in all matters of concern and importance for the promotion of the whole mission of the Church, it provides a benefit to the public, both to individuals and to society as a whole, by: providing resources and facilities for public worship, pastoral care and spiritual, moral and intellectual development, both to its members and for anyone who wishes to benefit from what the church offers; promoting Christian values and the service by members of the church to their communities.

To facilitate this work, it is important that we also maintain the fabric of both All Saints' church and the Barber Rooms.

This review summarises the life of All Saints' church during the calendar year 2021 and highlights a number of events and activities. Again this year, those responsible for many of the church's activities have been invited to contribute.

The PCC met 6 times during 2021, with an average attendance of 16 (out of 20) members. During the year the following served as members of the PCC, ex-officio, elected or invited to attend.

Ex officio members:

The Vicar and Chair	Revd Dr J Stephen Bellamy
Licensed Lay Minister	Helen Wilson Graham Weller
Church Warden	Linda Ritchie
Deanery Synod Reps	Peter Foot John Seedell Margaret Starr

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Elected Members (members are elected for three years)

Until APCM 2022	Julie Campbell Elaine Cox Immy Newcome Katie Foot
Until APCM 2023	Emma Kate Crebbin Joanne Raybone Chris Horley David Wilson
Until APCM 2024	Jim McGowan Helen Jackson Mark Jackson Laura Bond
Hon Treasurer	David Wilson
Hon Secretary	Mandy Hathway

Vicar's Report

2021 was another taxing year with the 'stop/start' levels of lockdown and restrictions because of COVID preventing any smooth transition to a new post-COVID 'normal', though this will, hopefully, emerge as 2022 progresses. But amidst all the challenges I want to pay tribute to the hard work and dedication of many people who have cheerfully kept us serving God, his people and our community through All Saints'. Our 'COBRA' group merit particular mention as they have met on Zoom weekly and now fortnightly from the first lockdown onwards. They've offered much needed support, advice and help in dealing with almost weekly challenges concerning our ministry during a pandemic. So, a huge thank you to those who have been part of that group – Linda Ritchie, Jim McGowan (until June), Helen and Dave Wilson, Graham Weller, Margaret Townsend (until October), Alison Scott (since October), Paul Walker (until June) and Josey Speller (since October). This group have monitored the changing situation and helped us tailor our opening for services to enable as many of us as possible to be at worship safely in such difficult times.

Jim McGowan stepped down as churchwarden in June after 4 years of extremely committed service in this role, but we are fortunate indeed to have his continued help as an assistant warden and as the leader of our Fabric group taking care of our buildings.

Linda Ritchie has worked tirelessly – as our only churchwarden since June - a situation we hope to rectify at the APCM this year. Words fail me in adequately describing just how hard and how willingly Linda has worked to facilitate the smooth running of All Saints and its continuing ministry and mission. Her involvement in so many aspects of All Saints' life as churchwarden has entailed countless hours' work both on Sundays for services and during the week. But in addition to this she does an excellent job in overseeing the applications for memorials in Coach Lane churchyard, organising and training assistant wardens, and, every other week, editing and posting the online service (many thanks too to Edward Bond who shares this editing responsibility so faithfully). Linda also oversees our website, verges at funerals, can set up the sound desk, makes sure we have cleaners employed to look after our buildings, monitors our safety with a CO2 recorder. Oh - and she helps to lead a homegroup as well and probably does a thousand more things

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quietly but faithfully that I and most of us never realise. We really do need to record our deep gratitude to Linda and ensure that this year we do what we can to share the load so that we can expand our ministry together without undue burdens being carried by just a few folk. I want also to thank Jim and Linda's spouses Julie and Mark whose willing support has been invaluable.

Linda has mentioned in her report the loss of several good friend of All Saints' in 2021 and to that number have been added this year Judith Couch and George Abell – please pray for their families and friends in their loss.

Thank you to our relatively new band of Assistant Wardens, who have been a great help in enabling us to welcome and provide for everyone on Sunday mornings and to spread the load of what needs doing week by week.

Alongside the much appreciated ministries of Licensed Lay Ministers Helen Wilson and Graham Weller, we have benefitted again from the dedication, in retirement, of Barbara Mapley, Paul Winchester and Dick Whittington and are delighted to have recently welcomed Chris Etherton and Jeremy Mais as ministers with permission to officiate. The Standing Committee - myself, churchwarden Linda Ritchie, treasurer Dave Wilson, and secretary Mandy Hathway- have continued to meet by Zoom, as has our PCC.

A big loss this year was having to say goodbye to our curate Paul Walker after his 3 years with us. We hugely miss him and Sheree, Charlotte, Harriet and Alice. Because of restrictions in July, I was the only person able to be present at Paul's institution as Vicar of at All Saints' Dedworth, Windsor. The service was livestreamed so many of us watched from Faringdon and we were able to send a video of our farewell applause and thanks at Paul's last service here. It's good to hear that the Walkers have settled in well to their new surroundings and that Paul is enjoying being a Vicar. Their move has certainly inevitably added several hours a week to my workload and necessitated the burning of more midnight oil than is healthy.

On the positive side, it has been a great joy to welcome to All Saints' Josey Speller, along with her husband Chris, and also Chris' son Toby. Josey brings a wealth of experience of church-based work with children, teenagers and families. Josey has come as our Children and Families Leader, half funded by the Diocesan Development Fund. Mid-pandemic is not an easy time to arrive, but after Chris and Josey were married in September, and she moved up to Swindon, Josey has worked with great dedication to re-establish Junior Saints on Sunday mornings, after we'd had no children's work for 18 months. An important goal is to ensure that we have enough volunteers to enable us to run 2 Junior Saints groups – one for 4 to 7s and another for children aged 7 to 11, so that we again begin properly to serve 'junior' age children. In addition, Josey is working on enabling the Little All Sorts baby and toddler group to restart after Easter 2022 and has offered to help lead the FROG group for teenagers which needs to get back to meeting regularly again. Josey has also made some good links with Faringdon Junior School, who enjoyed a pre-Christmas visit to All Saints' to discover the real meaning of Christmas and will hopefully make a similar trip to discover what Easter is all about. Josey devised a nativity trail of Christmas characters around more than 20 shops in the centre of Faringdon in December and she is running a Zoom Lent group/ book club this Lent.

Amongst this year's other highlights have been: our second 'Ice Cream Sundae Sunday' at the start of September when an ice cream van came up the church drive to offer everyone a free ice cream after the All Age Service; the Sanctuary Day at All Saints' attended by 63 people in October at which Rev Stewart Fyfe from Resource led us so helpfully – have travelled all the way from Cumbria to be with us for the weekend – thanks to Barbara Mapley for helping to set this up; the number of people coming back to

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membership of home groups – by Zoom but also in person as we now have 6 groups meeting in daytime and evening, with around 60 members in all.

After a period of lockdown early in 2021, we enjoyed being back together at worship from April 11th, meeting at first for one service before, in September, moving to a traditional Book of Common Prayer Communion at 9am and a more informal main morning service at 10.30am. While attendances are, as is the case across the country, about 30% down on pre-COVID levels, it has been wonderful to welcome between 20 and 30 newcomers to All Saints' with more new faces appearing regularly. In several cases it has been the availability of online worship that has helped guide new friends to join us. Therefore, while in all honesty it is often exhausting to provide online services week after week together with in person ones, we must keep providing this opportunity for those who either cannot manage to come to church anymore, or are worried about returning – or are beginning to seek out a place that may become their spiritual home.

We thanked Margaret Townsend in October for all she did as our Administrator and were very pleased to welcome Alison Scott into this vital role. Alison now works for 4 mornings a week, Monday to Thursday, in the church office. Thank you also to the many who keep our buildings looked after and maintained – Geoff Edgington, Mark Jackson, Mark Ritchie are amongst those working with Jim McGowan on this. Jeni Summerfield has at last been able to work with the Flower Guild again on providing flowers in church to our great benefit. Wendy Tynan works hard to keep our churchyard in Coach Lane in good order. We are well served by Caroline and others who have been involved in cleaning the church building and Barber Rooms. Chris Raybone has served us with great consistency and commitment on our excellent new sound and AV desk – more volunteers needed to help please – full training will be given!

As we look ahead into less restricted times, we have been learning that in order to begin to reach new people with the good news of Jesus we need to be more flexible and ready to change and move forward. The PCC are keen to resume, where COVID made us stop, the discovery of what changes other churches have made in their buildings to improve their fitness for 21st century mission. We hope to visit churches that have re-ordered soon with a view to learning what God might be calling us to do by way of adapting our building for more flexible and fruitful use.

Thank you very much to everyone at All Saints' (mentioned above by name or not!) for keeping on keeping on through the enormous challenges of the last two years of pandemic. Let's continue to be the welcoming church that God has taught us to be and keep working to fulfil the vision he has given us to be 'connecting people with Jesus, sharing his love in our everyday lives'. In a precarious world and in a time beset by worrying increases in the costs of living, the importance of anchoring ourselves to the rock, the Lord Jesus Christ and building on him alone cannot be overstated.

Financial Review for 2021 – David Wilson

Total receipts on unrestricted funds were £128,644 of which £85,547 was unrestricted planned voluntary donations, and a further £19,653 was from Gift Aid. Restricted income and donations (including gift aid) of £16,342 were also received. No legacies were received in 2021.

£115,559 was spent from unrestricted funds to promote the whole mission of the church within the parish and beyond. Our diocesan parish share of £70,112 was paid in full (£68,885 after rebates received for paying by direct debit and because the deanery share for the first half of the year was paid in full before the end of July). Donations to missions and charities of £14,360 were made.

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Overall funds increased by £48,728 during the year. There was a reasonable increase in the General Fund of £14,085 (helped by having significantly less repairs and maintenance work than previous years). Restricted funds also increase by £14,982, primarily due to gains in investment assets. Designated and Endowment funds also both increased in value due to slight increases in the value of funds invested in the stock market.

PCC Reserves Policy – *David Wilson*

The PCC needs to hold reserves as it has fixed (and usually rising) expenditure each year to cover expenditure such as Parish Share, Parochial expenses, Insurance, Repairs and Maintenance, Gas/Electricity/Water to support church services with no guaranteed income.

The risk of income not arising each year to cover these core expenditure items is small (there are a reasonable number of committed/planned givers who provide a good base level of income each year).

The PCC believe that reserves amounting to between three and six months of annual expenditure on the items above is reasonable to cater for a downturn in income as well as providing an appropriate level of funds to cover expected buildings expenditure. This would equate to around £30,000 to £60,000 on 2021 general expenditure.

The PCC currently has reserves (unrestricted and designated) within this range which is pleasing given the situation at the end of last year.

It is our policy to invest the short-term investment fund balances with the CCLA Church of England Deposit Fund, and the remainder typically in the CCLA Church of England Investment Fund.

Church Fabric Report – *Jim McGowan*

During the past year, two significant jobs have been completed – roofing repairs and the installation of external CCTV cameras. The roofing repairs have been ongoing for almost three years and in the summer of 2021 the final section (focussing on the north side of the church, including replacement rooflights over the North Aisle) was completed. Last autumn the final two CCTV cameras were fitted on the church, with the result that we now have five cameras covering the church and Barber Rooms – we hope that this will help to reduce the level of vandalism / anti-social behaviour.

We've started to look at replacing the main noticeboard (at the bottom of the church path); we've made some good progress on this, but now need a small amount of input from someone with graphic design experience. We're also looking for a new Health & Safety officer – please let Jim know if you are aware of any potential volunteers for either of these areas.

In the past couple of months, we've acquired a new church ladder – which is a huge step up on our old ladder. The new ladder will have a number of benefits, including producing significant cost savings on changing light bulbs. A very small change (but with important benefits) has been the installation of a mailbox outside the Barber Rooms – which means that the church became eligible for our first-ever postcode! Our official postcode is SN7 8AD.

Just before Christmas, we had our regular electrical inspection – we knew that quite a lot of remedial work was required and we were not too surprised when our electricians were judged to be “unsatisfactory”. We have yet to receive detailed cost estimates for the work, but we know that we will have to address these issues within the next 12-18 months.

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Before the pandemic, we had some very early discussions on potential ideas for reordering and, with the help of the diocese, we had identified a few churches that had recently completed similar projects. We had arranged for PCC members to visit these churches, but that had to be postponed; we're hoping to re-arrange the visits to two or three churches within the next few months.

Thank you to everyone on the Fabric Group for all their work over the past year – we are extremely grateful for all that you do to look after our wonderful buildings.

Coach Lane Cemetery – Wendy Tynan

Restrictions due to Covid has made maintenance more difficult and spasmodic; in that it has only been possible to remove leaves and fallen wood once fortnightly cramming each one of our four brown bins to full capacity, wreaths have been piling up, the edges of the gravel path becoming over grown. Support from our contracted grass cutter has necessarily been disappointing with other commitments taking priority, but parishioners tending family graves have volunteered time and mowers to keep the grass paths cut and graves easily accessible throughout.

The old cast iron gates, valued between £5-£6,000, and in danger of deterioration, were removed by Nick Gordon, who had them blasted, treated and finally repainted. The final fitting of the gates and refitting of the vertical bolts will take place after the repair of the stonework of the top one third of one of the supporting pillars, to be rebuilt by Andy Radcliffe. This repair was contracted last year, but unlikely to be done until late Spring.

The walls of this corner of the cemetery are cause for grave concern due to the outward pressure of the soil piled against and behind the large ash growing there. A breach occurred in the boundary wall of the adjoining cottage, made safe by Mark Jackson until it could be rebuilt. After discussion with Jim McGuire the owner of the cottage very kindly arranged for his contractor to do the work at no cost to us. Cracks are appearing in the wall facing outwards into the road. Removal of the soil is a top priority and scheduled for the end of March. Soil from this corner will be used to raise the ground level of graves where tombstones are toppling because of topsoil removal in earlier years. Jim has arranged for grass seed to be incorporated in the mix to regreen the area.

One third of the hedge plants in the back hedge have been cut back. The remaining two thirds will be cut back successively in years two and three. The aim is to thicken the hedge base which has become leggy. New plants will be put in if required.

Linda Ritchie has been renumbering cremation plots for ease of identification of both the old and new graves. She tirelessly updates and records location of cremations and burials in the cemetery as these occur.

I wish to record my warmest thanks to all those who have helped in so many ways over the past year.

Deanery of the Vale of the White Horse – Peter Foot

For the first time in at least two decades, the Deanery was not able to meet its Parish Share commitment in full. Thankfully, St Mary's and All Saints' churches were able to fund their obligation in 2021 but many smaller churches in the deanery have found the combination of an ageing population, Covid and other complications to have really cut into church income. The Diocese has responded by not increasing the amounts to be collected for 2023 and has assured churches that no penalties will be applied to

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congregations which, for no fault of their own, fall short by the end of the accounting period. In the meantime, the deanery has offered to help benefices with difficulties by assisting parishes to reach the best distribution of parish share within a benefice. This has been very fruitful to date.

Sometimes, it can seem that Parish Share dominates the work of the Deanery. However, our Deanery has taken on tasks that, certainly for the smaller churches, are best handled centrally. Two examples will illustrate this. Faringdon Learning Trust provides education across the Vale at primary and secondary levels. In order to raise the profile of Christian education, especially at secondary level, the deanery is actively engaged in getting Trust to employ a schools worker/Chaplain as part of the everyday working life of the schools. To that end, our Area Dean, the Revd Jason StJohn Nicolle is both a Foundation Governor and active RE teacher at Watchfield School (itself a non-CE school). This provides a service which individual incumbents are not able to provide and which facilitates the arrival in the medium term of a new post that is funded entirely outside church resources but which is vital for our churches all the better to minister to the teenage population our area. Secondly, the Deanery is working to encourage all churches to follow the Eco Church initiative - thinking carefully about how each church can help the environment by a variety of measures - should we floodlight our buildings at night, for example? - which build up a sequence of Bronze, Silver and Gold awards. It may be some way off, but it would be great to have all of our 27 churches, including St Mary's and All Saints', with Gold plaques affixed to their entrances!

Each Wednesday, at 7.30am, Deanery Prayers are said. These cover, in turn, each of the benefices in the Vale: as a minimum, each incumbent, warden, treasurer, PCC Secretary and deanery rep is prayed for by name. In addition, themes reflecting deanery needs, the relationships with the Dorchester Area and the Diocese, for our Bishops and Archdeacon, together with wider issues in the Church of England and Anglican Communion. If you would like to receive that weekly prayer guidance, please contact p.foot47@gmail.com. We know many people who use the list as part of their own devotions but who find an early Wednesday start rather too intrusive!

For any further clarification, please do not hesitate to ask your Synod Reps: Margaret Starr, John Seedell and Peter Foot: we would be delighted to help.

Safeguarding – Helen Wilson

We continue our work at All Saints' to do our utmost to ensure that our church is a safe place for all.

Helen Wilson continues to be the church safeguarding officer, with responsibility for children, and Isobel Weller continues as the church safeguarding officer, with responsibility for vulnerable adults. Alison Scott has taken on the role of Church Administrator and is now the Safeguarding Recruiter/Verifier. Together with the safeguarding officers, Alison maintains and monitors all the safeguarding records, as well as undertaking the associated administration. The induction into these roles has not been insignificant and we thank Alison for all her work on this.

Our new Children and Families Leader, Josey Speller, oversees the different children's groups and will, together with Helen, ensure that the safer recruitment procedures are carried out for all new volunteers.

We are now using the Safeguarding Dashboard, which has been provided by the diocese. This is an excellent online audit tool which clarifies the steps required to work towards the safest possible environment, and gives links to the latest documentation. This also produces an action plan, which is shared with the PCC at intervals.

Regular safeguarding meetings continue to be held at least quarterly with all four of the above and our vicar, Steve.

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Julie McGowan is the Children's Advocate. Safeguarding is a fixed item on the agenda for each PCC meeting.

Church Warden Review of the Year 2021 – Linda Ritchie

My fellow churchwarden, Jim McGowan, stepped down as church warden at the APCM in June 2021 after serving for four years. He has kindly continued to chair the Fabric Committee and continues to make a huge contribution in many aspects of church life. Thank you, Jim.

A team of assistant wardens joined a rota to cover verging at 10:30 services once every six weeks from the beginning of September and this lightened the church warden's role considerably. Thank you to Chris and Hannah Rutt, Elaine and Graham Cox, Mark and Helen Jackson, Jim McGowan, Julia Burn, John Seedell, Katie Foot and Jeni Summerfield. Thank you too to those who continue to verge for the early communion service: Beryl Cooper, Wendy Tynan, Jeff Wilson and Chris and Joyce Horley. I'm grateful to Julia Doolan who took on verging for a couple of weddings held in the autumn and then agreed to verge for some funerals, too.

My fellow churchwarden, Jim McGowan, stepped down as church warden at the APCM in June 2021 after serving for four years. He has kindly continued to chair the Fabric Committee and continues to make a huge contribution in many aspects of church life. Thank you, Jim.

We were sorry to say farewell to curate, Paul Walker, his wife Sheree and Charlotte, Harriet and Alice but excited for them as he moved to being Vicar of All Saints' Dedworth in July. We also said goodbye to others who moved to a new area including Bob Mackintosh, Robert and Tracey Morrison, Bob Plumptre and Gloria Zentler-Munro. Sadly, Roger Cox, Janet Gaines, Peggy Lambert and Kathleen Richards died during the year. However, we have been pleased to welcome about thirty people who have come back to church or moved into the area and have joined us.

We were delighted to welcome Josey Speller as our full-time children's and families' leader (partly funded by the Diocese of Oxford's Development Fund). Junior Saints' for junior-age children restarted in September and many children followed a Nativity Trail round the local shops that Josey organised.

Sunday services continued to be suspended early in the year because of the pandemic and resumed, once vaccines became readily available, with one service each week from 11 April. From 5 September, a Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion service was held each Sunday at 9am and a more informal Morning Worship service at 10.30 (with an all-age service on the first Sunday of the month, Holy Communion on the second and fourth Sundays and Morning Prayer on the third). COVID safety measures were followed including using hand gel, mask-wearing and social distancing. Some of these were relaxed in the autumn but reintroduced with the advent of the Omicron variant. We held a torchlit Carol Service on 19 December, 3 services on Christmas Day but no service on Christmas Eve. As expected, numbers attending were lower than in 'normal' years. We have also continued to produce a weekly recorded service of worship, prayer and teaching (made available via Facebook and YouTube (accessed from our website) as well as an audio-only version available by phone).

We continued to meet for prayer (mostly via Zoom but sometimes in person) at the monthly prayer meeting, at home groups and on Friday mornings. The Vicar continued to send out a weekly email to keep more than 200 people up to date. In October, our administrator, Margaret Townsend, moved on to another job and was replaced by Alison Scott.

Gradually, ringing bells, arranging flowers, singing in church with vocalists and instruments and activities for children were reintroduced. The teenage group, FROG, met on Zoom in the first half of the year but were unable to meet from September because of the lack of leaders. The Barber rooms were used a little in the

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second half of the year. Caroline, with help from Jeni and Geoff, has kept the church clean and in the autumn Sam Masters joined us to clean the Barber Rooms. We have been unable to host social events apart from coffee after church in October and November and a delicious Cornish pasty lunch during a Sanctuary Day in October.

Rooflights above the North aisle were replaced and two final CCTV cameras were fitted on the front of the building after an extended but ultimately successful application for a faculty. Thanks again, Jim.

I am very grateful for the support of Steve, the PCC and so many members of All Saints who contribute so generously to our life together. May we continue to serve and encourage one another, welcoming all and may our Lord Jesus be honoured, loved and exalted.

ACTIVITIES

Children and Families Leader Report – *Josey Speller*

Since I began in October 2021, I have received a fantastic welcome to All Saints. Thank you for making Chris and I feel at home in the church.

Little All Sorts

This is All Saints group for babies and their parents and carers. It has not restarted since it had to stop when the pandemic hit. They meet on Monday mornings during term time for play, craft, refreshments and a bible story.

We have been working towards this group restarting after Easter. With great help from Wendy Bellamy, there are outlines of sessions for two years. Previous leaders have met on Zoom to reminisce about the group and look forward to beginning again, however not all the previous leaders are able to commit as before.

In preparation of restarting a few of the leaders met to tidy and sort the cupboard. All the forms and publicity will be updated so that we are ready to begin at the start of May.

I'm delighted that we have new leaders willing to join the team, however there is always space for more. Hearing stories from before the pandemic, it's clear to see how much the leaders enjoyed their time as much as the children and parents. If you can help once a month, please do speak to me.

Junior Saints

The children attend Junior Saints in the Barber rooms during morning services, offering bible teaching and activities for primary school aged children. We have a great team of leaders with Joanne, Jo, Helen and Immy. We also have a young person doing their Duke of Edinburgh volunteering with us which has enabled us to offer another age group some Sunday mornings. I wish to thank Rita who after 5 years of leading has had to step down to support her son with sporting commitments.

We can usually expect 2-6 children most weeks, however numbers do vary. Currently the majority of the children are 4-7 year olds. The older children are less keen to come to a group with younger ones in, so where possible we're trying to offer different activities for any older children who may come. This is a challenge when numbers are inconsistent but I'm hoping that once more families are aware there is an older group, numbers will be more regular.

We also enjoy welcoming children of baptism families or those visiting families in Faringdon. In previous years Junior Saints would break for a week at half term, however I have been that we continue because

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often this is when children might come to visit grandparents and it's great that we have something to offer them.

As a leadership team we have made the decision to change the resources that we use. We were using Energize from Urban Saints but have just changed to get a subscription with Roots. Roots feels the right resource for us at the moment because they offer teaching materials for all ages that follow the lectionary and they are also more adaptable to the different age groups. Our subscription also has the added bonus of offering ideas for all age worship.

If you would like to talk about becoming a leader with the children, please do speak to me

FROG

Fully Rely On God (FROG) is our group for Young people in the church. Prior to the pandemic they met on Sunday evenings in the Upper Asset and Barber rooms. During the first wave of the pandemic the leaders were able to meet with the young people on Zoom, however they've not met since the summer holidays.

Wonderfully, there are several young people who are interested in confirmation so FROG will be restarting at the end of March. We'll run a confirmation course, but it will be open to all young people of secondary school age.

Although FROG is slightly older than my 'children and families' remit, I'm keen to help get the group up and running again and I know how much joy it can bring working with young people and helping them to explore their faith.

We have a new leader Alun joining the team and I'm grateful for all that Peter, Andrew and Kate have done to get the group up and running again. I'm excited to be a part of the team. We do have a real need for more leaders with this group, again – the more leaders the less need there is for people to commit to every week.

Schools and other activities

Due to the rise of omicron Christmas was not quite as we hoped it would be and events such as Messy Nativity and Babs of Bethlehem had to be cancelled. However, I was able to organise a nativity trail around the town. 23 shops and cafes were willing to have a little nativity figure in their window for families to find and work out the Christmas message. Although I only had four or five entries submitted, when I went around to thank the shops they suggested that a lot more families were taking part.

It was great to be able to welcome Year 4 from Faringdon Junior School to the church before Christmas. The three classes came and were told about the nativity story, how the church celebrates Christmas and think about what gifts (talents) the children have to offer back to God. The morning went really well and we're hoping to do something similar just before Easter.

It has also been great to work with Steve and Helen in preparing the All Age services. Attendance of families can be varied but it's so important that we offer opportunities for families of all ages and the whole church to worship together.

Finally, I wish to thank Steve, and the wider church, for all the prayer and encouragement you give to the children and families in All Saints.

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Church Prayer Meeting – *Steve Bellamy*

Zoom has proved to be a great help to our maintaining the monthly Church Prayer Meeting on the first Wednesday evening of each month at 8pm. It has often meant that we have had higher numbers that attended in person in church pre-COVID, often gathering between 25 and 30 of us to pray. The format of the evening is that someone leads a short reflection on a Bible passage, then we are expertly allocated to prayer groups by Linda Ritchie for 12 or 13 minutes as we use some suggestions for prayer circulated in my weekly church email. We then come back 'together' in order to have our closing prayers using a short liturgy shared on screen. I am very grateful to those who have joined me in leading on occasion including Barbara Mapley, Helen Wilson, Paul Winchester, Paul Walker, Chris Etherton, Peter Foot and Graham Weller. Everyone is welcome and it's really not essential that you are confident to pray out loud.

Prayers on Friday 7.40am – 8.30am - *Helen and Mark Jackson*

This group has been going for nearly 40 years. It has been taking place via zoom since the beginning of lockdown and will probably remain this way as it is easier for most people. New people have started attending this year and we are always open to new people joining. We are usually a group of 10 regular people. Please contact Helen Jackson for the zoom link information if you would like to join in. We start by praying into a passage of scripture that is shared and then pray over a variety of subjects and situations as the Spirit leads.

Prayer Chain 2021 - *Jeni Summerfield, Barbara Mapley, Ruth Seedell*

This is a much valued aspect of our prayer life at All Saints' with the three strands of the prayer chain continuing to work to uphold those in need before the Lord.

If you wish to make a prayer request you can speak to any of the clergy or one of the three of us. We are all happy to receive an email which is then forwarded to the three prayer chains. If however the request is extremely urgent you may make contact by phone to any one of us.

Home Groups

Monday Group – *Bridget Adams*

Our Monday Homegroup continued to meet fortnightly during term time.

We began 2021 meeting via zoom, doing Bishop Steven Croft's four course series on Philippians.

We then looked at some of Penelope Wilcock's More Stand-Alone Bible Studies - choosing themes of Perseverance, Renewal and Hope.

In the Autumn our meetings were based around discussing the previous Sunday service/sermon. Some were via zoom and some in person in Fernham.

It was a delight to celebrate meeting again in person when possible and we have enjoyed cake and fizz and a summer social meal outside.

In December we shared Christmas drinks and nibbles and were pleased to welcome some new members to join us.

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Tuesday Home Group – *Peter Foot*

Our year has been conducted entirely via Zoom and it has generally suited this group well, at least for the time being. However, we are very conscious that this meeting method does leave out two members from regular contact and we want to redress that in future.

Our studies have been various and (mostly) invigorating. We began the period under review with Acts 13-28, using the Cover-to-Cover Bible study guide and illustrating aspects where possible with Raphael's Sistine Chapel tapestries (courtesy of the V&A). Galatians was studied using the relevant Cover-to-Cover guide and that was less successful as the text and questions tended to drive us away from the text, rather than bring us closer to it. We then looked at Isaiah 1-29 through Howard Peskett's lens of 'trusting God in troubled times'. We will take up Isaiah 30-65 later in 2022. Over the summer, we then each chose a Psalm or two for the group to explore - a particularly vivid and valuable few weeks for us all. Since the beginning of the year, we devoted 5 weeks to the Living in Love and Faith course; Lent 2022 sees the group tracking *Living His Story* by Hannah Steele.

We are flexible as to the future and very ready to participate in any sermon-series related studies in the future. We thank God for the fellowship across the group.

Wednesday Home Group – *Steve Bellamy*

We are very grateful to Geoff and Muriel Loosemore, who relinquished leadership of the group during 2021, but continue to attend. While there were times in the middle of the year when we didn't meet, we met by Zoom to study Philippians using Bishop Steven's book and also did the 'Wisdom House' course by Rob Parsons. Moving into 2022 the group has completed the Living in Love and Faith Course and has recently welcomed 3 new members, so that our full complement is now 12.

Thursday Evening Home Group – *Graham and Isobel Weller*

We have been meeting on zoom generally on a fortnightly basis. The group has consisted of about ten members, with some members taking time out as needed over the last year. Over the year we have studied Bishop Steven's course on Philippians, the Character Course by Roger Bretherton and the Old Testament prophet Joel. We are currently making our way through the Living in Love and Faith course. Although we led the majority of the sessions, we were very encouraged that other members of the group led occasional meetings.

Home Group – *Helen and Mark Jackson*

We are a newly formed home group in January 2022. There are 12 official members and we meet face to face in the home of Helen and Mark Jackson in the town centre. We are currently studying the Anglican book 'Living in Love and Faith' and we meet fortnightly on a Wednesday evening from 7.30-9pm. So far so good!

All Saints' Singers – *Karen Brusch*

What a difference a year makes - this time last year, we were still humming behind our masks. The pause in live music has introduced us to quite a number of new songs, and that is very healthy for a worshipping community; still raising our praises through well known hymns and songs, but also reconnecting to Jesus our Lord through the words of new ones.

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Over the last year, we have introduced the All Saints singers (& musicians) back in to our before and after experience of structured worship, and more recently of course we have been able, finally, to join in congregational singing. It may still be with masks on, but it is so good for the soul to sing out in praise.

Now the fun comes for All Saints Singers - to learn to lead the congregation in some of the new songs we have learnt over the past near 2 years. We have really been enjoying rehearsing together, getting to know each other more (conscious that I am the newbie here). Week by week, singing songs that help us explore the character of God as we mature as people of faith. And we must give thanks to Chris Raybone, who has mastered the art of balancing our singing and playing.

We are now back to weekly rehearsals, and taking some time to ensure what we sing before and after the service, and in communion, matches the lectionary readings. We always welcome feedback of course; one of the new songs we have started to sing recently "Beneath the cross of Jesus" was as a result of several people commenting on how beautiful the tune was.

I am always on the lookout for musicians, so if you would like to join us, please let me know - I have the technology to transpose music so any instrument is welcome. We meet Tuesday evenings for rehearsal 5pm.

Please continue to pray for us as we lead worship.

Faringdon bellringers' - Clare Knock, tower captain

COVID has again affected our ability to ring this year. We were unable to ring for a while due to restrictions. Then as restrictions eased, we were able to ring for services and weddings. As in the previous year the lack of ventilation in the tower limited the ringing we could do, and so it was a while longer before we began practices and we are still limiting them to an hour and wear masks to mitigate the risks.

Since October we have been running silent practices, supported by Peter Hunt and Andrew Slater, on a Thursday evening teaching two new ringers and improving the handling of existing ringers. Unfortunately one of the new ringers has had to drop out, but Lisa Mullings has now reached a high enough standard to come along to our main practices on Monday evenings.

Our youngest ringer, Daniel Watson, has attended various youth events organised by the Oxfordshire Guild of bellringers and rung several quarter peals.

Jon Chamberlain has continued to write pieces each month for the Advertiser to advertise our ringing. In February Andrew Slater ran an open day for home schooled children, introducing the students to the church bells, hand bells and Tony Crabtree, a Shrivenham ringer, brought over his miniring (a miniature tower ring that can be collapsed down into a car for transport).

At Christmas we were able to meet in the church to hold our annual Christmas social gathering of food and mulled wine.

Thank you to Caroline Phillips for running the service ringing on a Sunday and Kay Chamberlain for organising ringing for the weddings.

All Saints' Flower Guild - Jeni Summerfield

There was a little more Flower Guild activity during 2021 than in the previous year, but we definitely weren't back to normal service!

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During the earlier part of 2021 we had silk flowers in place but once restrictions began to ease we returned to using fresh flowers beginning at harvest with a wedding! Fresh flowers were maintained throughout the remainder of the year with another wedding at the end of October and we did our usual Advent wreath and Christmas decorations for the Carol Service.

We are now fewer in number but are still maintaining what I hope is a high standard of workmanship with the reduced team and we look forward to getting back to our routine at Easter and the many weddings and services of blessing that are happening in All Saints' during 2022.

We would love to welcome new members, so if anyone is interested in joining us please get in touch and come and see what we do and try it out!

Friendship Directory - Margaret Starr

The Friendship Directory lists the names, telephone numbers and emails of church members. It is for all who wish to belong. It was updated in November and will next be updated after Easter.

Churches Together in Faringdon – Jeni Summerfield

Due to the continuing pandemic, few CTiF activities took place.

The AGM in October was held in All Saints' church as the Quaker Meeting Room was considered too small for safety.

At the meeting all the committee members agreed to stay in post for the following year.

It was proposed that we sang carols in the Marketplace on the Saturdays leading up to Christmas and this was organised by members of the Catholic, Baptist and United Churches.

We hope to resume our usual activities this Easter with the sunrise service on Folly Hill followed by breakfast.

Mustard Seed – Katie Foot

We remember with love Mairead Boyce, such a key member of the Mustard Seed team since its inception until her death in January 2022, and Barbara Bailey who died in September 2021 and had been a volunteer in the shop for many years.

Yet again, the shop was obliged to close for the lockdown which began on Boxing Day 2020, but Karen Vogt kindly continued with her excellent service of personal orders/deliveries. We were able to reopen after Easter, and to sell a reasonable number of Easter eggs in advance by advertising through the church newsletters. We also managed to have a market stall during Fair Trade Fortnight on Saturday 6 March which Karen and Sjoerd ran and from which we also sold some Easter eggs. We also had a stall at Faringdon's Big Green Day in September, again run by Karen.

Christmas sales went fairly well in 2021, including Christmas postage stamps. Karen's Christmas Hamper orders hit another record high. For the second year running, we were pleased to arrange hampers for the retired clergy of the Vale of White Horse Deanery as it was not possible to arrange the usual lunch or tea for them. These were extremely well received.

We have continued only to open from 9am to 1pm Monday to Saturday, with those volunteers who felt sufficiently confident returning gradually to the rota, usually after they had received their second

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vaccination. This seems to have worked pretty well, although takings have been lower this year than after the first lockdown. We managed to stay open on some afternoons during Advent as well.

We remain deeply grateful to Malcolm and Val Swift for the very important contribution that Seekers' Light offers to making The Mustard Seed the successful Christian witness it is in Faringdon. Val comes over virtually every week to check the cards and Malcolm is always at the end of the phone for queries and orders of books. Sales have been boosted by arranging bulk orders of lectionaries in 2020 and 2021 for the Vale of White Horse Deanery (Church of England), as well as the new-style Marriage Registers which came into effect in May 2021 and which each benefice had to have.

We are also extremely grateful to Lois Chell for keeping the books in order and arranging for the accounts to be audited by Alder Demain Akers free of charge.

From our charity account, we have been very glad to be able to support Faringdon Foodbank with a number of donations during the year.

The repairs to the flat roof at the rear of the shop are finally due to be carried out during March/ April 2022. This is good news as it is now in a very poor state indeed though fortunately not affecting the storage area. The front of the building will also be repainted.

We remain very grateful for the support from members of the All Saints congregation, both as volunteers and customers – long may that continue!

Faringdon Family Centre - *Jeni Summerfield*

Faringdon Family Centre is the title of a CTiF charity with a committee made up of representatives from all the churches. It operates the local Food Bank in partnership with the Town Council and with volunteers from within and outside of the churches.

Following the Covid lock downs when the foodbank had been run by Sally Thurston the Town Clerk and her staff, the CTiF team took back the management of the Food Bank in September 2021.

We have since been incredibly busy as many more people are struggling with bills given the increase in the cost of living and the drop in financial support for those on benefits.

We are able to function through the generosity of church members, the public, local schools, Rotary and other organisations who donate food and money, and we are grateful to the staff and customers at our local Waitrose who have a new donation scheme which gives us a weekly top up of necessary items.

We were seriously affected by the death of our Chairperson Mairead Boyce whose unstinting efforts and drive made so many things happen through CTiF and the Family Centre. She has left a great legacy for us to continue.

If you would like to know more about our work please get in touch with Jeni Summerfield for more information.

Earth & Faith - *Pam de Wit*

EARTH & FAITH, now in its 9th year, offers a Christian focus in the church and town of Faringdon for developing our understanding and care of the environment. We are a channel of information and ideas, and a witness of Christian concern for environmental issues.

ACTIVITIES

Because of the Covid pandemic the E&F group held all its meetings by Zoom during this year.

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- In place of our usual Plant Stall at a Saturday Market, we organised an Enormous Plant Giveaway during the last weekend in April 2021, when 21 houses around Faringdon offered plants of all kinds to take away free. We reckoned around 2,000 donated plants changed hands in a few hours on the Saturday morning.
- In May we helped to design and record an online service for Christian Aid Week, on the theme of climate injustice.
- Since May, with the endorsement and support of the Town Council, and reaching out to the town as well as our church congregations, we have been running a Tree Planting Project: 'Faringdon Branches Out'. The aim has been to encourage people to buy and plant trees in their gardens and community spaces from November 2021, to coincide with the COP26 global Climate Change conference in Glasgow.
Some tree planting has now been done, and some is being planned for March 2022, after which we shall put together a report on the outcomes of the whole project.

**We are grateful to CTiF for their encouragement,
and to local ministers and church leaders for their support,
and to Faringdon Town Council for their endorsement and
help with publicity and printing costs.**

**Thanks also to the ecumenical co-ordinating group
who plan and organise our events:**

Pam de Wit (All Saints')

Sjoerd Vogt (Blessed Hugh)

Jenny Braithwaite (Society of Friends)

Julia Burn (All Saints')

Dave Headey (United Church)

Libby Smedley (Baptist Church)

We remember with gratitude Mairead Boyce, who was part of this group on behalf of Blessed Hugh Church during most of the past year.

ALL SAINTS' PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021
Statement of financial activities

2020 £		Notes	General funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total £
<u>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS</u>							
133,284	Voluntary Income	2a	118,703	-	12,961	-	131,664
	Activities for generating funds		-	-	-	-	
4,327	Income from Investments	2b	976	-	3,381	-	4,357
8,110	Church Activities	2c	8,965	-	-	-	8,965
	Other income		-	-	-	-	-
145,721	TOTAL INCOME		128,644		16,342		144,986
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>							
89	Raising Funds	3a	68			-	68
	Church Activities						
14,530	- Missionary and Charitable Giving	3b	11,548	-	2,812	-	14,360
68,885	- Diocesan Parish Share (£70112, less refunds)		68,885	-	-	-	68,885
95,672	- Other activities	3c	33,858		10,668		44,526
200	Governance Costs	3d	200	-	-	-	200
179,375	TOTAL EXPENDITURE		114,559	-	13,480	-	128,038
(33,654)	NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) BEFORE INVESTMENT GAINS/(LOSSES)		14,085		2,862		16,948
15,423	NET GAINS ON INVESTMENT ASSETS (on revaluation)	11		1,506	12,120	18,155	31,780
(18,232)	NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		14,085	1,506	14,982	18,155	48,728
-	TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS		-	-	-	-	-
-	- Tfr 1 (details if required)					-	-
-	- Tfr 2 (details if required)					-	-
-						-	-
(18,232)	NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		14,085	1,506	14,982	18,155	48,728
785,399	Total funds brought forward 1 January		509,643	10,526	120,089	126,909	767,167
767,167	Total funds carried forward 31 December		523,729	12,031	135,071	145,064	815,896

Parish share paid in full. Next year's share is £70,112 before refunds (No increase). £69,411 after 1% reduction for DD

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Balance sheet as at 31 December 2021

2020 £		Notes	General funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total £
Fixed assets							
486,760	Tangible fixed assets	7	481,320	-	-	-	481,320
209,056	Investment assets	8	-	12,031	83,182	145,064	240,277
<u>695,816</u>	Total fixed assets		<u>481,320</u>	<u>12,031</u>	<u>83,182</u>	<u>145,064</u>	<u>721,597</u>
Current assets							
0	Stock		-	-	-	-	-
0	Debtors (tax recoverable)	9	2,518	-	-	-	2,518
67,286	Short term deposits		19,324		51,620		70,944
4,065	Cash in hand and at bank		20,567	-	269	-	20,836
<u>71,351</u>	Total current assets		<u>42,409</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>51,889</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>94,298</u>
Liabilities(Creditors): amounts falling due within one year							
0	Interest Free Loans		0	-	-	-	0
0	Barber Rooms costs	10	0	-	-	-	0
<u>71,351</u>	Net current assets		<u>42,409</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>51,889</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>94,298</u>
Liabilities(Creditors): amounts falling due after one year							
0	Interest Free Loans		0	-	-	-	0
<u>767,167</u>			<u>523,729</u>	<u>12,031</u>	<u>135,071</u>	<u>145,064</u>	<u>815,896</u>
Funds of the church							
Unrestricted funds							
509,643	General fund		523,729	-	-	-	523,729
10,526	Designated fund	12	-	12,031	-	-	12,031
<u>520,169</u>			<u>523,729</u>	<u>12,031</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>535,760</u>
120,089	Restricted funds	11	-	-	135,071	-	135,071
126,909	Endowment fund	11	-	-	-	145,064	145,064
<u>767,167</u>	Total funds of the church		<u>523,729</u>	<u>12,031</u>	<u>135,071</u>	<u>145,064</u>	<u>815,896</u>
			-	-	-	-	-

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 16 March 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

Rev Dr Steve Bellamy
Chair, PCC

Dr David Wilson
Treasurer

ALL SAINTS' PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021

Notes to the accounts

2020		2021			
Total funds	2 INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment
£		£	£	£	£
	2a Voluntary Income				
	Planned Giving:				
80,830	Tax - efficient planned giving (excl. tax)	67,518	-	5,000	-
21,423	Tax recovered/recoverable	19,653	-	1,443	-
16,070	Other planned giving (bankers order and payroll)	18,029	-	-	-
1,483	Collections of loose cash at services	3,103	-	-	-
	Legacies	-	-	-	-
	Children & Families Leader Contributions from ODBF	-	-	3,730	-
900	Grants Received towards activities	-	-	-	-
	Youth Work Related Donations	-	-	-	-
	Mission Fund Donations	-	-	-	-
100	Little All Sorts Donations	-	-	169	-
1,200	Delta Cross Ministries Donations	-	-	-	-
6,052	Other donations (Gift Aided)	6,812	-	770	-
3,844	Other donations (Non Gift Aided)	1,804	-	1,849	-
1,383	Furlough payments from HMRC	1,784	-	-	-
	Wall Safe/Cask etc.	-	-	-	-
133,284		118,703	-	12,961	-
	Activities for generating funds				
	Fetes, Bazaars, Other fund-raising events	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-
	2b Investment Income				
313	Deposit accounts (CBF, CAF, Virgin)	10	-	26	-
4,014	CBF Investment Account Dividends	966	-	3,355	-
4,327		976	-	3,381	-
	2c Incoming resources from charitable activities				
6,318	Fees - weddings, funerals etc	7,970	-	-	-
722	Church magazine	-	-	-	-
1,070	Room Hire	995	-	-	-
8,110		8,965	-	-	-
	Other incoming resources (If required)	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-
	3 EXPENDITURE				
	3a Raising Funds				
89	Stewardship Campaign. Gift Aid Envelopes etc.	68	-	-	-
	3b Missionary and Charitable Giving (see note 6)				
11,340	Overseas Mission, Relief & Aid	8,175	-	-	-
1,945	Home Missions	2,855	-	-	-
1,245	Secular Charities	518	-	2,812	-
14,530		11,548	-	2,812	-
	3c Church Activities				
464	Ministry: Clergy Expenses	1,459	-	-	-
14,619	Curate Costs	(3,000)	-	-	-
	Children & Families Leader	3,480	-	3,730	-
504	Other Staff & Expenses	470	-	-	-
3,463	Church Cleaning	3,451	-	-	-
4,370	Heat Light & Water	2,428	-	-	-
371	Telephone & Wi-Fi	391	-	-	-
5,152	Insurance	5,278	-	-	-
2,880	Repairs & Maintenance: Organ & Bells	-	-	688	-
32,203	Other (mainly Quinquennial work)	1,806	-	6,250	-
	Church Development	523	-	-	-
3,921	Cost of church services	1,807	-	-	-
755	Upkeep of Churchyard	1,398	-	-	-
214	Magazines Expenses	-	-	-	-
898	Training, Mission & Education	1,216	-	-	-
5,440	Depreciation charge for year (Barber Rooms etc.)	5,440	-	-	-
12,438	Other expense items (£100 Petty Cash written off)	100	-	-	-
7,982	Admin, Printing, Stationery, Bank Charges	7,611	-	-	-
95,672		33,858	-	10,668	-
	3d Governance Costs				
200	Audit fees, legal advice, PCC meetings	200	-	-	-
	4 STAFF COSTS				
10,205	Wages & Salaries	10,599			
2	Average no. of employees	3			

During the year the PCC employed a cleaner and an administrator (and for part of the year a 2nd cleaner). Both these posts are part time and salary payments were not large enough to attract Social Security costs (NI) or to qualify either of them for auto enrolment in a Pension Scheme (although the administrator can opt-in). From October, the PCC also employed a full time Children & Families leader. There were no P11D employee benefits paid to any staff in this, or previous, years

ALL SAINTS' PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021

Notes to the accounts

5 Trustee remuneration and expenses - related parties

No members of the PCC received any remuneration for their work on the PCC. The clergy, who are ex officio members do receive a stipend but are not remunerated for their service on the PCC. No PCC members claimed expenses although they would be entitled to claim travel costs for attending meetings.

6 Grants made - grants were made to the following institutions:

Christian Aid	840.00	CMS	3360.00
Wycliffe Bible Translators	225.00	CTIAAF Subs	200.00
INF (Pokhara Hospital)	1345.00	Interserve	1120.00
Scripture Union	225.00	The Bible Society	840.00
The Children's Society	972.00	Simeon's Trustees	225.00
Tear Fund	840.00	Torch Trust	110.00
Bankuet (Food Banks)	1750.00	Faringdon Food Bank	100.00
Resource	300.00	Sanctuary Hosting	1237.50
WATSAN	670.00		

2020 TOTAL

14530.00

TOTAL

14359.50

No grants were made to individuals.

7 Tangible fixed assets (all unrestricted)

	Freehold land & buildings £	Fixtures fittings & equipment £	Other £	Total £
Cost or valuation				
At 1 January 2021	500,000	2,200	-	502,200
Additions/Disposals	-	-	-	-
Revaluations	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2021	500,000	2,200	-	502,200
Depreciation				
At 1 January 2021	15,000	440	-	15,440
Charge for year	5,000	440	-	5,440
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2021	20,000	880	-	20,880
Net book value				
At 1 January 2021	485,000	1,760	-	486,760
At 31 December 2021	480,000	1,320	-	481,320

8 Investment assets

Fixed asset investments

	£
Carrying (market) value on 1 January 2021	209,056
Add additions at cost/value	-
Less disposals at carrying value	(559)
Net gain/(loss) on revaluation	31,780
Market Value - 31st December 2021	240,277

9 Debtors and prepayments (no amounts were due in more than one year)

Amounts falling due within one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Accrued income - tax refund due	2,518	0

10 Creditors and accruals (no amounts were due in more than one year)

Amounts falling due within one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Accruals	0	0
	0	0

11 Endowment and restricted funds

	Fund balances b/f £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Fund balances c/f £
Endowment funds					
Craven/Rawlings/John Wright (Inv A/C)	19,647	-	-	2,811	22,458
Haines/Spinage (Inv A/C)	3,125	-	-	447	3,572
Celia Walker Fund (Inv A/C)	104,137	-	-	14,897	119,034
	126,909	-	-	18,155	145,064
Restricted funds					
Chamberlain (Organ Fund) (Invest)	56,729	0	559.32	9,882.84	66,052.10
Chamberlain (Organ Fund) (Deposit)	260	559.48	538	0.00	281.16
Celia Walker Fund (Deposit)	17,611	3,365	-	0.00	20,975.77
Celia Walker Fund (Invest)	11,529	-	-	1,649.22	13,177.83
Bell Ringers Fund (Deposit)	4,336	2	150	(0.00)	4,187.76
Fabric Fund (Quinquennial grants etc.)	8,392	4	-	0.00	8,396.45
Little All Sorts fund	100	169	-	(0.00)	269.40
Accrual for tax refund	0	-	-	0.00	0.00
Mission Fund (Deposit)	16,753	9	-	0.00	16,761.39
Boffin (Bells, clock, chimes) (Inv)	3,364	-	-	587.59	3,952.03
Boffin (Bells, clock, chimes) (Deposit)	1,017	1	-	(0.00)	1,017.32
	120,089	4,110	1,247	12,120	135,071.21

12 Designated Funds

	£	£	£	£	£
Coach Lane Investment Fund	10,526	-	-	1,506	12,031

Independent Examiner's Report to the Parochial Church Council of ALL SAINTS'

I have examined the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet and related notes.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC (Charity trustees) and Independent Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

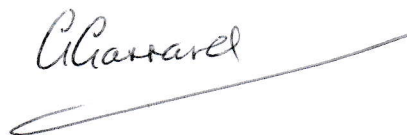
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention

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

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or

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

Gill Garrard
8th March 2022
Independent Examiner
3 Stanford Road
Faringdon
Oxon SN7 7AQ



Accounts

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC) OF ALL SAINTS' FARINGDON

ANNUAL REPORTS AND ACCOUNTS FOR 2020

AIMS and PURPOSES

All Saints' PCC is responsible, in co-operation with the Vicar, for promoting the whole mission of the Church – pastoral, evangelistic and social – within the ecclesiastical parish, and for maintaining the fabric of All Saints' Church and Coach Lane cemetery.

The PCC of All Saints' Faringdon is a corporate body established by the Church of England and operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The PCC exceeds the limits for exemption from registering with the Charity Commission and is therefore registered under the name of "The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of All Saints' Faringdon" (Charity No. 1134401).

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. The membership of the PCC consists of the Vicar, Licenced Lay Ministers, and Curate, Churchwardens, Deanery Synod representatives and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the church. All those who are members of our congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC is aware of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in "The advancement of Religion for the Public Benefit" and have regard to it in the administration of the parish.

The PCC believes that, by fulfilling its responsibility to work together with the Vicar and co-operating in all matters of concern and importance for the promotion of the whole mission of the Church, it provides a benefit to the public, both to individuals and to society as a whole, by: providing resources and facilities for public worship, pastoral care and spiritual, moral and intellectual development, both to its members and for anyone who wishes to benefit from what the church offers; promoting Christian values and the service by members of the church to their communities.

To facilitate this work, it is important that we also maintain the fabric of both All Saints' church and the Barber Rooms.

This review summarises the life of All Saints' church during the calendar year 2020 and highlights a number of events and activities. Again this year, those responsible for many of the church's activities have been invited to contribute.

The PCC met 6 times during 2020, with an average attendance of 16 (out of 20) members. During the year the following served as members of the PCC, ex-officio, elected or invited to attend.

Ex officio members:

The Vicar and Chair Revd Dr J Stephen Bellamy

Curate Revd Paul Walker

Licensed Lay Minister Helen Wilson
Graham Weller

Church Wardens Jim McGowan
Linda Ritchie

Deanery Synod Reps Peter Foot
John Seedell
Margaret Starr
David Wilson

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC) OF ALL SAINTS' FARINGDON

ANNUAL REPORTS AND ACCOUNTS FOR 2020

Elected Members (members are elected for three years)

Until APCM 2021	Graham Weller Linda Ritchie Helen Jackson Mark Jackson
Until APCM 2022	Julie Campbell Elaine Cox Immy Newcome Katie Foot
Until APCM 2023	Emma Kate Crebbin Joanne Raybone Chris Horley David Wilson
Hon Treasurer	David Wilson
Hon Secretary	Mandy Hathway

Vicar's Report

My last written report – for 2019- was updated at our zoom APCM meeting in October 2020 as it was impossible to ignore some of the events of 2020 which had happened by then. Similarly, just 8 months on, this report will include overlap with some aspects of how the first half of 2021 is going. Hopefully, next year we will return to reporting a little earlier than this and mainly about the previous calendar year.

When you're in the midst of uncharted territory, you really need a good team to see you through. Personally, I'm so grateful that our excellent churchwardens, Linda Ritchie and Jim McGowan have been in the forefront of our team for coping and adapting - often very quickly - to extraordinary circumstances we never dreamt of facing before the pandemic. Between them they have turned their capable hands to many unfamiliar tasks e.g. working through risk assessments for meetings on our premises, establishing and running the booking procedures for weekly worship, editing and uploading the items for our online worship, preparing the PowerPoints for use in on site worship, organising and facilitating the accommodation of 70 to 80 cars for 2 Drive In Carols Services at Aldi car park, applying for a broadcasting licence for that event, protecting chairs from bat droppings, running Zoom quiz nights and much more – and all on top of the other duties of care for the church (the people), the church buildings, updating the website, overseeing maintenance and development of our premises, approving memorials in the churchyard, to name but some of the many tasks they have ably and willingly performed for us.

So I want to say a huge thank you on our behalf to Linda and Jim, they have both been brilliant this year. I'm sure Linda won't mind me saying a special extra thank you to Jim as he steps down as churchwarden at the APCM after 4 years. Jim is always open to seeing how we can move God's mission forward through All Saints'. He maintains positivity about our hopes and plans which is an inspiration to me and to others. He's generously offered to stay on as the person who heads up our Fabric Group, which will be a real help to his successor and Linda. Please come along if you can on June 20th to the APCM after our shortened Morning Worship as we thank Jim and Linda for the vital work they have to keep All Saints' not only afloat but moving ahead through difficult times. And thank you to Julie and Mark their respective spouses for their patience and support that has helped Jim and Linda fulfil this crucial ministry for us with such aplomb.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC) OF ALL SAINTS' FARINGDON

ANNUAL REPORTS AND ACCOUNTS FOR 2020

I'll try not to duplicate too much of what Linda and Jim have said in their excellent report on 2020 but there are some good events to remember and willing servants of All Saints' I'd like to thank for their fellowship and service.

Alongside Jim standing down as churchwarden, we are also soon to lose Paul Walker our curate who has, together with Sheree and their daughters Charlotte, Harriet and Alice been with us since 2018. The sad (for us) but also glad (for Dedworth parish) news that Paul has been appointed Vicar of All Saints Dedworth in Windsor was announced on March 28th. We will miss them all greatly and are thankful to God for their fellowship and partnership in the gospel over these three years. Apart from his leading, preaching and pastoral contacts, Paul has been very much involved in our links with the Infant, Junior and Secondary Schools in Faringdon, not least through his being a trustee of the multi-academy trust. He has also been a leader in Alpha (online and on site), in our FROG group and has organised our monthly Church Prayer Meeting. Our prayers and good wishes go with the Walkers as they move in early July and as long as restrictions continue to be eased, we hope a number of us will be able to be present in person when Paul is welcomed into his new parish at what will be a Collation, Induction and Installation Service (British Gas are not involved). This will take place on Thursday July 15th. Please pray for a smooth move and that they will all settle into their new home, surroundings and schools quickly and please come along on Sunday June 13th as we say our goodbyes in church on Paul's last Sunday on duty here.

Each week since COVID first locked us down, our 'COBRA' group have met – alongside myself and the wardens, have been Paul Walker, our curate, Dave Wilson our treasurer, and Helen Wilson and Graham Wilson our Licensed Lay ministers, with Margaret Townsend our administrator helpfully taking our notes. My thanks to this group for being a wonderful team to have working together and bringing their different skills to bear as we navigated our way through these last 15 months.

In addition, our Standing Committee – myself, wardens, treasurer and our much appreciated secretary Mandy Hathway, have continued to meet by Zoom as has our PCC. On the occasions when All Saints' has met for worship, Chris Raybone has been a stalwart on the tech desk – operating our excellent new sound system which was installed during lockdown, and Jeni Summerfield and the Flower Guild have kept the building looking brighter with displays of silk flowers. Geoff Edgington has continued to offer us invaluable service in looking after jobs needing doing around church and ensuring that the premises had sufficient heating even when empty. Wendy Tynan has worked hard to keep our churchyard in Coach Lane in good order. Similarly we are grateful to Caroline and Amy who have continued to clean our buildings for us.

We have enjoyed having a range of congregation members reading and leading prayers for our online worship and, in addition to those already mentioned, Avril Coleman, Barbara Mapley and Paul Winchester have presented or recorded reflections for services or for our Church Prayer Meetings. I'm also grateful to the band of 'ringers round' who enabled us to reach a large number of people with a contact phone call during lockdown, to assure them of our concern and care. To those who normally would have attended our Advent and Strawberry teas, we have sent cards, prayer booklets for Advent and Lent and the prayer journal for Thy Kingdom Come.

Though our children's work – with primary school age children in Junior Saints and with toddlers and their carers in Little All Sorts- has been curtailed and damaged by the long closure COVID has imposed, it is vital to our health as a church that we re-establish a vibrant work with children and their families. To this end we are thrilled to have been awarded, from the Diocesan Development Fund, half-funding for the full-time post of Children and Families Leader and the advertisement is now live (see our website). Please pray that the right person will come to fill this role and share the advert with anyone you know who might be the right person to join us in this capacity. I am very grateful to the small group who worked up the ideas for the application to the Diocese and especially to Helen Wilson and Jim McGowan for going the extra mile in preparing our bid for funding and more recently honing the advertisement and person specification.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC) OF ALL SAINTS' FARINGDON

ANNUAL REPORTS AND ACCOUNTS FOR 2020

Please pray that the right person may see the advert and apply and also that we will not shirk our responsibility of providing them with a willing team of co-workers in this vital task.

It's been a joy to know that our work with teenagers -FROG- has been able to continue by Zoom on Sunday afternoons. Also benefiting greatly from Zoom has been our Church Prayer Meeting, some of our home groups and our occasional coffee and chat on Sunday mornings. I'm very grateful for those including Helen Wilson, Paul Walker, Jim McGowan and Linda Ritchie who have helped place us in small groups to pray and chat in such meetings. Online Alpha run by Paul and Sheree Walker, Helen Wilson and Jim McGowan proved to be a surprisingly effective medium for sharing the Alpha course and many of those who came were very regular throughout and a good number were happy to continue with a follow on series of post-Alpha Zoom meetings led by Paul and Sheree. We may not have heard the last of using Alpha online as a format!

A working group met to look at how our communications might be improved and reported to the PCC, who were grateful to accept their suggestions. One of its conclusions was that it was right for our weekly church email to continue beyond COVID. Because this is able to provide more up to date and immediate information than a monthly magazine, the suggestion was accepted that, alongside the email, we explore producing an occasional publication – perhaps for Christmas/New Year, Easter, the Summer and Autumn/Harvest, giving information about our activities in the next period of the church's year. A leaflet with key information and contact details would also be available.

The PCC are still looking at how the interior of the church might be updated for mission in the 21st century and we are likely to begin looking at what other churches have done to re-order (as we were intending to do when COVID struck) – with seating, lighting and a welcome area providing the main focus of our interest.

Our Growth and Vision Group has met regularly to think and pray about the future as we currently go through a time of a recovery and re-emergence from COVID restrictions and as we look ahead to what God may be asking us to do by way of re-shaping his church to meet the challenges of the post COVID world. One thing is certain; we cannot go ahead thinking that nothing has changed, and that we can simply resume everything as it was at the point when COVID forced us to stop. It is vital that we all play our part in seeking God's way forward for us as a church so that we may be more effective in future in reaching the people of Faringdon with the good news of Jesus. More than ever we must resist the temptation to settle for being a cosy club – though we are more determined than ever to maintain the care, communication and encouragement we established during COVID so that all our congregation feel supported and included. Rather, as well as being a place where disciples may grow in their following of Jesus, we must engage more with our community to bring God's peace, justice and mercy to bear as well as growing into the missionary society that exists for the benefit of those outside the church, that Jesus taught his followers to be.

Before 2020, such things as our Ice Cream Sunda(e) Sunday, virtual Balloon Race, Drive-In Carol Services at Aldi car park, online Quiz Nights, Comedy Night online, Zoom Prayer Meetings and Home groups and even our weekly church email were unheard of. As restrictions ease, we do need to continue to meet together across the generations for occasions where we can enjoy one another's company and have fun – events to which it might also be easy to invite friends, family and neighbours who are not yet Christians.

Let's ask for courage and the willingness to be open to God's Holy Spirit, so that we may take risks for the sake of the gospel and of those in Faringdon. Let's do all we can to help our friends and neighbours discover that Jesus loves them dearly and wants to transform their lives. Thank you very much to everyone at All Saints' who joins in with the challenges and joys of God's mission to and for Faringdon, as we aim to be 'connecting people with Jesus; sharing His love in our everyday lives'.

Financial Review for 2020 – *David Wilson*

Total receipts on unrestricted funds were £130,578 of which £91,900 was unrestricted planned voluntary donations, and a further £19,793 was from Gift Aid. Restricted income and donations (including gift aid) of £15,143 were also received. No legacies were received in 2020.

£152,203 was spent from unrestricted funds to promote the whole mission of the church within the parish and beyond. Our diocesan parish share of £70,112 was paid in full (£68,885 after rebates received for paying by direct debit and because the deanery share for the first half of the year was paid in full before the end of July). Donations to missions and charities of £14,530 were made.

Overall funds decreased by £18,232 during the year. There was a significant deficit in the General Fund of £21,403 (largely due to the most of the outstanding repairs identified in the last quinquennial inspection being completed) as well as a deficit of £5,672 in the Restricted funds due to the installation of the new Sound System. Designated and Endowment funds both increased in value due to slight increases in the value of funds invested in the stock market.

PCC Reserves Policy – *David Wilson*

The PCC needs to hold reserves as it has fixed (and usually rising) expenditure each year to cover expenditure such as Parish Share, Parochial expenses, Insurance, Repairs and Maintenance, Gas/Electricity/Water to support church services with no guaranteed income.

The risk of income not arising each year to cover these core expenditure items is small (there are a reasonable number of committed/planned givers who provide a good base level of income each year).

The PCC believe that reserves amounting to between three and six months of annual expenditure on the items above is reasonable to cater for a downturn in income as well as providing an appropriate level of funds to cover expected buildings expenditure. This would equate to around £35,000 to £70,000 on 2020 general expenditure.

The PCC currently has reserves (unrestricted and designated) just below the bottom of this range so we are just outside our stated reserves policy. However, 2020 expenses included almost £26,000 on largely finishing the roof repairs (a one of item). 2021 expenditure is forecast to be lower than 2020. The PCC do recognise that our reserves do need to be built up again over the next few years to stay within the policy target position.

It is our policy to invest the short-term investment fund balances with the CCLA Church of England Deposit Fund, and the remainder typically in the CCLA Church of England Investment Fund.

Church Fabric Report - *Jim McGowan*

The main focus in 2020 has been looking after the church buildings in the long periods when they were closed or only open for a strictly limited range of activities – thank you to everyone who has helped to keep the buildings clean, safe and secure over the past year. Apart from this, work has continued on the roofing repairs over the past twelve months, with most of the work on the north side of the church completed; a small amount still needs to be done over the next few months.

Our Quinquennial Inspection took place in March 2020; the report included a series of recommendations for repairs and maintenance (which we are gradually working through), but the headline comment was that “the condition of All Saints’ Church, Faringdon is generally sound”.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC) OF ALL SAINTS' FARINGDON

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In May a new sound system was installed – the pandemic has meant that the new system has only had limited usage, but it is definitely a huge improvement on our old system. Thank you to everyone who was involved in planning the new system, and especially Linda Ritchie who chaired the sub-group that specified and selected the equipment.

We had one incident of vandalism / anti-social behaviour during the year (in February); we were able to view the incident on our recently installed CCTV system and we shared this footage with the local police officers.

Over the past 18 months we've had some initial discussions on potential ideas for reordering and, with the help of the diocese, we had identified a few churches that had recently completed similar projects. We had arranged for PCC members to visit these churches in April, but this had to be cancelled due to the pandemic. We still hope to rearrange this for a future date.

Thank you to everyone on the Fabric Group for all their work over the past year.

Coach Lane Cemetery – Wendy Tynan

The year has seen a much reduced level of cemetery upkeep and maintenance which came to a halt completely throughout the first lockdown, but has resumed on a low key basis since. It will be very good to be able to get back to projects in hand as the restrictions are slowly lifted.

I'm very grateful for the assistance with various tasks that I have had latterly from one of my former regular helpers.

Deanery of the Vale of the White Horse – Peter Foot

The Deanery of the Vale of the White Horse achieved something in 2020 that it has lacked for some time: a full complement of Incumbents and House for Duty posts. The gaps in the Badbury Group at Ashbury have been filled, respectively, by the Revd Maureen Turner and the Revd Canon Paul Richardson. The Deanery wishes them both a fruitful and happy ministry amongst us.

Much of the year has been taken up in a thousand ways coping with the impact of the pandemic on our congregations. From a Deanery perspective, this has had two aspects. The first, and most visibly, it has been the effort to do as well as possible in the circumstances with Parish Share. It was clear from the first lockdown that for our Deanery we would be able to do reasonably well in 2020, using reserves and calling on additional giving, but faced further challenges for 2021. Particularly hard hit were the smaller churches for which the Parish Giving Scheme, now operating across All Saints', did not seem to be a pressing necessity. That left them financially vulnerable as their receipts from weddings and funerals dried up and, through the closure of churches, cash offerings on the plate similarly disappeared. All Saints' Church, Faringdon paid in full. As a consequence of the overall shortfall, the Deanery was not able to pay the full amount in December 2020 and so none of the benefices received the usual rebate of the full 3%. For its part, the Diocese has not made any increase in Parish Share for 2021; every effort now focuses on getting the best result we can for 2021 as a whole. It is possible that there will be no rebate this calendar year. The All Saints' Treasurer is well aware of this and has planned accordingly.

Bishop Colin Fletcher retired during 2020 and his final financial 'gift' to the Deaneries within the Dorchester Area was the last of what had become the annual round of small sums to encourage evangelism. 2020 saw the distribution of £2,500.00 across a number of churches, including our own. It is very much to the credit of John Seedell, the Deanery's retiring Treasurer that this process has been handled so smoothly and successfully. A new Treasurer will take up the office during 2021 under the

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watchful tutelage of John: we are all very much in his debt for this oversight as well as for everything he has done as our Treasurer. We are glad that he will remain a member of the Deanery Synod.

All Saints' Church, Faringdon, is represented at each level of the Vale of White Horse Deanery Synod. Our Vicar and Curate are automatically Clergy members. The elected Lay members are:

Margaret Starr Standing down at the APCM 2021

John Seedell Synod Representative

Peter Foot Synod Representative and Lay Chair

In sum, we have a vacancy to fill on the Deanery Synod, to be voted in at the 2021 APCM. In addition, Revd Bellamy and Messrs Seedell and Foot are members of the Diocesan Synod. The Area Dean is Revd Jason St John Nicolle from the Churn Benefice near Didcot; the Assistant Area Dean is Revd Jeremy Goulston from the Uffington group of churches; the Assistant Lay Chair is Mrs Sarah Howell from the Shrivenham & Ashbury Benefice.

The new Bishop of Dorchester is already on record as saying that both the Diocese and the Deanery should be focusing their efforts on making the parishes thrive. The Deanery has begun a weekly Prayer Initiative which will ensure that every church in every benefice in our Deanery will be prayed for, along with the incumbents, Wardens and PCCs. We very much look forward to the challenges and opportunities that these two approaches will bring for us all.

Safeguarding – Helen Wilson

We want All Saints' Church to be a safe haven for all and therefore consider safeguarding to be of the utmost importance.

Helen Wilson is the church safeguarding officer, with responsibility for children, and Isobel Weller is the church safeguarding officer, with responsibility for vulnerable adults. Margaret Townsend is the Safeguarding Recruiter/Verifier and maintains and monitors all the safeguarding records, as well as undertaking the associated administration. Regular safeguarding meetings are usually held at least quarterly with all three of the above and our vicar, Steve. However, during the pandemic these meetings have been less regular.

All clergy, LLMs and safeguarding officers have been required to attend on-line Leadership safeguarding training in the past year. This was a thorough process, spread over two evenings, that required considerable reading and the completion of a reflective workbook.

Each area of the Church has an appointed representative who oversees volunteer involvement within that area. It is the job of the representative(s) to ensure that the safer recruitment procedures are followed and to inform Margaret Townsend of new volunteers who require DBS disclosures. Julie McGowan is the Children's Advocate.

Safeguarding is a fixed item on the agenda for each PCC meeting.

Review of the year 2020 – Linda Ritchie and Jim McGowan

Our usual pattern of meeting together (8am Holy Communion; 10.30am main service with an all-age 'Saints Alive' service on the first Sunday of the month, Holy Communion on the second and fourth Sundays with Morning Prayer on the third) continued until 24 March 2020. From then, we were unable to meet in person because of the COVID pandemic until 26 July. From 26 July to 1 November, a small number (c30)

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met together in church at 10am on Sundays where we wore masks, were not allowed to sing and kept to COVID-secure distances. Occasionally, we received communion (bread only) in these services. Services were suspended again by government order in November and resumed between 6 and 20 December. Although services could go ahead after this, the Vicar and PCC decided that the safest course was to cancel all services in church for the rest of the year.

However, though the building was closed so much, the church was very much alive and recorded services of worship, prayer and teaching were made available each week via Facebook and YouTube (accessed from our website). These services have been appreciated by our church members and by others who had never attended a service at All Saints' in person. We are very grateful for those who have taken on the new responsibility of contributing to and editing online services. More traditional services were also available through the diocesan website.

There were church prayer meetings on the first Sunday of the month at 6.30pm in church January-March and these continued via Zoom for the rest of the year; some meetings for prayer during the week continued in homes and most of the home groups continued to meet via Zoom.

Before lockdown we held a Christingle and a Taizé evening worship service. A special Ice Cream Sunda(e)y service was held in September for families when 56 ice creams were served outside church after the service. On 20 December, we hosted two drive-in carol services at Aldi's car park for about 80 cars each time. We thank Steve Bellamy for these wonderful ideas and many church members who helped at the events.

Ringling bells, arranging flowers, practising singing and instruments and activities for children and young people have all been curtailed since March and, apart from FROG (Fully Reliant on God) (11-16s) who have continued to meet via Zoom, did not resume in 2020.

An Alpha course via Zoom ran in the autumn mainly attended by young couples; FROG also completed a Youth Alpha course by Zoom.

Our APCM planned for March had to be cancelled and after appropriate diocesan authorisations, it took place via Zoom on 13 October.

We were unable to hold social events during the year but special cards were sent to those who live alone who would have been invited to the Strawberry and Advent teas. We also had a number of quiz evenings (over Zoom) through the year.

Communications have been maintained by a regular weekly email from the vicar and by all members being grouped onto lists of 9 or ten people who have been contacted by phone by another church member. In addition, we've also held informal "Coffee after church" meetings via Zoom on many Sundays through 2020.

The Barber rooms have been little used because of COVID restrictions. Caroline and Amy took the opportunity to do some spring cleaning. Amy resigned as Barber Rooms' cleaner at the end of the year having been offered a new job that she couldn't refuse. We're grateful to her and Caroline for their work in isolation this year.

Gutters and down-pipes work on the north side of the church has now been completed. Members of the fabric group have kept an eye on the premises throughout.

New sound equipment was installed in May and several people were trained in its use. COVID limitations mean we haven't been able to use it extensively, overall sound quality is much improved.

Sadly, several much-loved members and former members of the church family died during the year: Suzanne Hayhurst-France, Geoffrey Williams, Eileen Yeates, John Kimber, Anita Thomas and Peggy Lambert. Thirteen other funerals/thanksgivings and/or burials were conducted by our ministers. The

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number of people allowed to attend funerals, weddings and baptisms was severely limited during the pandemic and there were times when no services could be conducted in church. Some planned weddings and baptisms were postponed but happily, 2 weddings were celebrated and 3 younger members welcomed into the church by baptism.

The wardens express their sincere thanks to Jeni Summerfield for looking after the Flower Guild and arranging for a display of silk flowers once we were allowed back in church, Chris Raybone for managing the sound desk, Wendy Tynan and Geoff Edgington for many unspectacular but greatly appreciated jobs, the Fabric Group, and all who help by verging, welcoming, cleaning, polishing and in so many other unseen ways.

ACTIVITIES

Faringdon bellringers' - *Clare Knock, tower captain*

Due to COVID ringing has been very limited over the last year. In March 2020 we had to stop ringing completely. Then as restrictions eased over the summer of 2020 we were able to ring again after the tower and belfry safety check by Julian Watson. COVID rules meant that we could only ring a limited number of bells with the ringing led by Daniel, Julian and Cheryl Watson, supported by Jon and Kay Chamberlain and other ringers.

Supported by Jon Chamberlain many of our less experienced ringers went to Longcot where the Vale of the White Horse ringing master, Tony Crabtree, held sessions for the ringers to regain their ringing skills and confidence. Longcot belfry has the advantage of being a ground floor ring with large doors that can be opened for ventilation.

Then when COVID restrictions tightened in November 2020 we had to stop ringing again. Since April, after another safety check of the bells by Julian Watson, Daniel Watson tolled a single bell on the announcement of the death of Prince Philip and Jon Chamberlain tolled a single bell for Prince Philip's funeral. Limited ringing for services has also recommenced.

Due to the limited ventilation and space in the belfry at Faringdon, even as COVID restrictions ease, it will be a while before we can ring all the bells. At our AGM in March we discussed how we could re-establish ringing and ringing practices and will look at the options once COVID restrictions allow.

To keep in contact with each other a team from the tower entered Faringdon church's quiz and just before Christmas, some of us were able to meet up, outside, in the Market Square in Faringdon for some mulled wine, courtesy of Jon Chamberlain and some mince pies. Then in the spring a quiz team from Faringdon entered the Oxford Diocese church bellringers quiz and won.

Little All Sorts – *W Bellamy*

Our Little All Sorts baby and toddler group used to meet on Monday mornings in the Barber Rooms and attracted up to 60 carers and children, mostly unconnected in any other way to All Saints'. Sadly, we have been unable to meet since the first lockdown and are unsure if we will be able to reform.

FROG – *K Crebbin/P Foot*

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The best way to report on the activities of our teenager group FROG (Fully Rely on God) is in a series of thanks.

First of all, we are thankful for the many years of service to our 'big school'-aged young people to Tim Vinall. He has been a driving force in all kinds of ways and we appreciate his legacy of energy and commitment very much. We wish him well for the future in every way.

Secondly, we are thankful to Immy Newcome and Andy Slater who have joined the FROG team, together with Paul Walker, our Curate, Kate Crebbin and Peter Foot, we have enjoyed something like a 'full staff' for the first time in years. It lightens everyone's load and makes for better, fresher leadership. As Paul and Immy move on at the end of summer, we are now looking actively for replacements.

Thirdly, we give thanks to the technologies that allowed us to continue all the way through lockdown – using Zoom and the Alpha Youth video series. In a structured way, this has allowed us to explore all aspects of the Christian Faith in a way that held the attention of our participants mostly throughout.

Fourthly, we are grateful to the resources of *Energize*, to which All Saints' Church subscribes. This has given the team an excellent sequence of themes that build very well on the spiritual teaching of Alpha Youth. Themes already explored or planned are: Trust, Self-control, Giving, Joy, Love, Goodness and Faithfulness. As the rules permit, we will return to more in-person meetings on a Sunday afternoon, interspersing the teaching with activities and challenging games.

Finally, we are most grateful to God and our participants for seeing us through what could so easily have been a depressing period. As things have been this past year, it has been a time of active learning for everyone involved, including the leadership team, and quiet, reassuring development.

We look forward very much to welcoming new FROGS - and to new members of the leadership team - so that we can all Fully Rely on God.

Alpha - Paul Walker

During the autumn term 13 people attended an Online Alpha course held using Zoom. The two groups were hosted by Helen Wilson, Jim McGowan and Sheree and Paul Walker. Those there took part in starter games before watching the videos and then having a discussion together. Although we were unable to share meals with them, the attendees received a delivery of cake for the Alpha Away Day session from Sadlers! Many have grown in faith as a result of the course. Attendee retention was 100% and the great majority of those who attended with little prior relationship with the Church have continued to be part of an After Alpha group, led by Sheree and Paul. A big thank you to God for his provision and to those who helped out in any way.

Church Prayer Meeting – Paul Walker

The All Saints' Church Prayer Meeting has continued via Zoom on the first Wednesday of the month during the year. Our time begins with a reflection on God's word, followed by our breaking out into smaller groups to intercede together and then closing the evening using a simple liturgy. This year reflections have been led by Paul Winchester, Barbara Mapley, Helen Wilson, Graham Weller, Avril Coleman, Steve Bellamy and Paul Walker.

It has been good to meet together and pray for the needs of the world, local community and Church over the last few months, especially at a time when we haven't been able to meet together. It was also good to

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see that holding the evening online saw a net increase in the number of people who came along each month.

Church Mission Society (CMS) Prayer Support Group – *Colin Slater*

The main activity of the CMS support group used to be the monthly prayer meeting which was suspended during the Covid crisis. It was not possible to restart it in the brief window of reduced restrictions during the summer.

Our link missionary Mrs Lynn Treneary returned to South Sudan during a reduction in the travel restrictions and was there in December 2020. We have heard since that she has had to return to UK. No further news has been forthcoming.

Recently our host for our monthly prayer group meetings, Bob Plumtre, was taken ill while staying with family away from Faringdon and has gone into a residential home for care near his family.

There was a suspension of the table display, 'Mission of the Month', during the lock-down in 2020. Likewise events such as fund raising gatherings and guest visits did not take place.

12th April is the 222nd anniversary of the founding of CMS.

Prayers on Friday 7.40 – 8.30am - *Helen and Mark Jackson*

These have taken place on zoom since the beginning of lockdown. We usually start by reading a short passage from the Bible and then pray into it, for Faringdon, our church community, our families, the world, in fact wherever the Holy Spirit leads. Every week it varies. People pray out loud or silently. Different people choose the passage to read. We are usually 8-11 in number and Margaret Scott-Brown has joined us a few times. All are welcome and people can arrive late or leave early – on zoom! In fact you don't notice if they do if you have your eyes closed! Do ask for the zoom number and password if you would like to join. We always end by saying the Grace together.

Prayer Chain 2020 - *Jeni Summerfield, Barbara Mapley, Ruth Seedell*

This is a much valued aspect of our prayer life at All Saints' with the three strands of the prayer chain continuing to work to uphold those in need before the Lord. The prayer chain list is strictly confidential unlike the prayer list for Sunday services, but of course sometimes they overlap.

If you wish to make a prayer request you can speak to any of the clergy or one of the three of us. We are all happy to receive an email which is then forwarded to the three prayer chains. If however the request is extremely urgent you may make contact by phone to any one of us.

If you would like to know more about the prayer chain, do please speak to Steve or one of us.

Monday Group – *Bridget Adams*

Our Monday Homegroup meets fortnightly during term time usually in The Pines, Faringdon.

We are a mixed group of varied ages currently having 8 members with space to welcome at least 2 more.

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We began 2020 by meeting in person and doing the 3 part series 'Alive in Christ' by Bishop Steven Croft. This was done in parallel with the Church sermon series on Colossians and explored what it means to be a Christ-like Church.

After the Lent and Easter break we met fortnightly by zoom and completed the 'Prayer Course' prior to the summer holidays, enjoying the videos on different aspects of prayer and discussing the associated questions.

Following on from the 'Prayer Course' and still meeting by zoom, from September to December we enjoyed some contemplative reading of Scripture; choosing a Bible passage for each session, reading it through several times and allowing time for God to speak to us individually and as a group. We shared our thoughts and prayed together. During our last session before Christmas we shared bread and wine together as a reminder of all that Jesus has done and continues to do for us.

Wednesday Home Group – *Geoff Loosemore*

This group continued to meet every two or three weeks throughout the lockdown via Zoom. We enjoyed each other's company as we shared our various Christian experiences, prayed together and based series of studies on Rob Parson's book, The Wisdom House, followed by Bishop Steven Croft's four session course on Philippians. An important activity of the group was the occasional social meeting when we met more informally. As we come out of lockdown, we plan to have more outdoor sessions.

It has not been an easy year for house groups, but God has been good to us, as always.

Mum's Bible Study Group – *Wendy Bellamy*

Some Mums from Little All Sorts formed a small Bible Study group which met, with children, in a morning. Since restrictions on being together, the group has moved to meeting by Zoom in an evening. This has been quite different as we are now (normally) undisturbed by little ones!

All Saints' Flower Guild - *Jeni Summerfield*

There was very little Flower Guild activity during 2020. Fortunately the post-Christmas tidy up had happened before the church was closed.

Once we knew the church would be open again for limited access on Sundays in the summer I decided to use some of our silk flowers to create displays that would not require twice weekly attention. In this I was helped by Pam de Wit. Suitably masked and socially distanced we have managed to ring the changes through the church calendar for which I thank her.

I should also like to thank Joy Blake for creating a cross of twigs and flowers that was attached to the church noticeboard at the bottom of the church path for Easter 2021 as we were not able to do the usual decorations in church.

Unfortunately Audrey Jefferies and Helen Lofthouse have stepped down due to personal circumstances and I should like to thank them for their contributions over the last few years.

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Although the rest of the team have not been involved over the last year I should like to thank them for their continued support and encouragement and we look forward to getting back to our Rota sometime this summer.

Finally we were unable to say a proper 'goodbye' to our friend Janet Gaines who sadly died at the end of 2020. Janet was a quiet, gentle and unassuming lady who loved taking her turn at creating arrangements. We will very much miss her contribution to our team.

Magazine - Sue Thrower

Because of the situation with Covid, The Parish Magazine has not been published since March 2020, and any information about Church Activities has been sent out by email.

Friendship Directory - Margaret Starr

The Friendship Directory is a voluntary exchange of emails and phone numbers. 100 people are currently on the list. This is available largely by email but a paper copy can be requested,

The list will be updated shortly after the A.P.C.M.

Schools Report – Paul Walker

The pandemic has meant that we haven't been able to visit the schools in person this year, though we have maintained links with the infant, junior and secondary schools. Paul read a story for the Infant school at Christmas and prepared a pre-recorded activities for the those in the Junior school. Although we were unable to offer Christmas Through the Keyhole this year, the schools are very keen for us to do so again next Christmas. While the Christian Union has not met at FCC, the hope is that it will be possible to start again soon. All of the schools are very keen to maintain their relationships with the local Church and we are keeping the communities very much in our prayers.

Churches Together in Faringdon – Jeni Summerfield

Due to the Pandemic, all CTiF activities were suspended.

We were unable to hold any joint services or activities and held our postponed AGM in November via Zoom, during which Margaret Broadberry from the United Church took over from Tony Fecher from The Blessed Hugh as chairperson.

We thank Tony for his extra terms as President during the changes caused by ministers and priests appointments.

The community at BH welcomed Fr. Dominic at the end of 2019 but he was posted in the summer, and Fr. Clero arrived in autumn 2020.

The Baptist church minister, Lee Reddyhoff also moved away in the autumn.

We hope to resume our usual activities this summer.

Mustard Seed – Katie Foot

2020 began well, after good 2019 Christmas sales. Karen and Katie attended a trade fair in February at the Birmingham NEC on a theme of sustainability (fitting the shop's ethos well) and ordered some great new products but by the time they were delivered in mid-March, the COVID-19 lockdown was upon us, which meant that the shop had to close until mid-June. In spite of that, Karen offered a weekly delivery service with regular customers ordering by email or telephone, and Katie, assisted by Rosalind and Sue, held market stalls once a week from mid-May to mid-June. All this kept at least some income coming in and was much appreciated by customers. Sue also kept the regular Bible Study notes orders going. The same applied during the November 2020 to April 2021 closure.

Since the greater proportion of our volunteers are now over 70 and in the vulnerable category as far as Covid is concerned, we had to be cautious about who came back to the shop. We therefore decided just to open from 9am to 1pm Monday to Saturday, with those who felt sufficiently confident returning gradually to the rota. This seems to have worked pretty well, with takings not a great deal less than in previous years remaining open until 5pm, which is encouraging. Karen continues to offer a delivery service to those who have to remain at home shielding or self-isolating.

We remain deeply grateful to Malcolm and Val Swift for the very important contribution that Seekers' Light offers to making The Mustard Seed the successful Christian witness it is in Faringdon. Val comes over virtually every week when the shops are open to check the cards and Malcolm is always at the end of the phone for queries and orders of books.

Sales of postage stamps continue to go very well indeed and we sold several thousand Christmas stamps in 2019 and over 2,000 in 2020 in spite of the shop being closed! They are usually delivered to us within 24 hours of putting in an order, so if anyone wants a large number for any purpose, such as party invitations (in due course!) or Christmas cards, just let Katie know.

Heasman and Sadler very kindly let us use a corner of their warehouse for a number of years, but unfortunately new regulations meant that we had to move out during 2019. Bray Health and Leisure let us use some space on a temporary basis but fortunately, as of the beginning of 2020, we now have a permanent storage facility which is easily accessible.

The Mustard Seed was very glad to be able to support All Saints by covering the costs of Christmas through the Keyhole in December 2019. We are also able to support The Wave as and when required. In turn, we are very grateful for the support from members of the All Saints' congregation, both as volunteers and customers – long may that continue!

Faringdon Family Centre - Jeni Summerfield

Faringdon Family Centre is the title of a CTiF charity with a committee made up of representatives from all the churches. It normally organises and staffs a successful Breakfast Club at the Junior School and operates the local Food Bank again with the support of volunteers from within and outside of the churches.

During 2020 the Breakfast Club was unable to function with the school closed and as almost all of the volunteers for the Food Bank were over 65 we were unable to continue to operate as before. Sally Thurston, the Town Clerk, however stepped in and with her staff ran the Food Bank during the whole of the year. Members of Rotary and other volunteers helped to keep the food supplies at a level to be able to

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support anyone who found themselves in need and many people raised funds in different ways to enable this work to continue.

We are very grateful to all those who helped to maintain this vital service.

If you would like to know more about our work please get in touch with Jeni Summerfield for more information.

Earth & Faith - Pam de Wit

EARTH & FAITH, now in its 8th year, continues to offer a Christian focus in the churches and town of Faringdon for developing our understanding and care of the environment. We are a channel of information and ideas to the churches, and a witness of the churches' concern for ecological issues.

ACTIVITIES

Our ways of working have changed this year because of the Covid pandemic, and most of the events we were planning for summer 2020 could not take place.

- One hopeful exception to this shutdown was a Community Gardening project to improve the planting in the borders of the Southampton Street car park, an idea that grew out of the Lent Course in 2019. Its fulfilment was made possible when the Covid rules for outdoor exercise were relaxed in May last year. Twelve volunteers from the churches and wider community, with financial support from the Town Council and a local charity, and professional planning by a local garden designer, spent five hot and sunny weeks preparing and replanting the borders. The volunteer team continues to look after the weeding and general maintenance.

The E&F group has held meetings by Zoom since early October, to organise some distanced events for the beginning of 2021:

- A successful Mulled Wine and Poetry evening was held by Zoom in January, with a good attendance of 12 people and a variety of poems on the theme of Winter Waiting.
- In place of our usual Plant Stall at a Saturday Market, we organised an Enormous Plant Giveaway during the last weekend in April, in which 21 houses around Faringdon offered plants of all kinds to take away free.

Looking further ahead, in the coming months, with the endorsement and support of the Town Council, we shall be running a programme of information and education towards a Tree Planting Project in November, to coincide with the COP 26 Climate Change world conference in Glasgow.

We are grateful to CTiF for continuing encouragement.

**Thanks also to the ecumenical co-ordinating group
who plan and organise our events:**

Pam de Wit (All Saints')

Mairead Boyce (Blessed Hugh)

Jenny Braithwaite (Society of Friends)

Julia Burn (All Saints')

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Dave Headey (United Church)

Libby Smedley (Baptist Church)

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Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020
Statement of financial activities

2019 £		Notes	General funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total £
	<u>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS</u>						
117,362	Voluntary Income	2a	121,429	-	11,855	-	133,284
	Activities for generating funds		-	-	-	-	
4,389	Income from Investments	2b	1,039	-	3,288	-	4,327
12,572	Church Activities	2c	8,110	-	-	-	8,110
	Other income		-	-	-	-	-
<u>134,323</u>	TOTAL INCOME		<u>130,578</u>	<u></u>	<u>15,143</u>	<u></u>	<u>145,721</u>
	<u>EXPENDITURE</u>						
-	Raising Funds	3a	89	-	-	-	89
	Church Activities						
13,570	- Missionary and Charitable Giving	3b	9,025	-	5,505	-	14,530
65,565	- Diocesan Parish Share (£70112, less refunds)		68,885	-	-	-	68,885
99,187	- Other activities	3c	74,104		21,568		95,672
200	Governance Costs	3d	200	-	-	-	200
<u>178,523</u>	TOTAL EXPENDITURE		<u>152,303</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>27,073</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>179,375</u>
	NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) BEFORE INVESTMENT GAINS/(LOSSES)						
(44,200)			(21,725)		(11,930)		(33,654)
30,942	NET GAINS ON INVESTMENT ASSETS (on revaluation)	11		677	6,580	8,166	15,423
(13,258)	NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(21,725)	677	(5,350)	8,166	(18,232)
-	TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS		-	-	-	-	-
-	- Building Fund to/from General Fund		322		(322)	-	-
-						-	-
<u>(13,258)</u>	NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		<u>(21,403)</u>	<u>677</u>	<u>(5,672)</u>	<u>8,166</u>	<u>(18,232)</u>
798,657	Total funds brought forward 1 January		531,046	9,848	125,761	118,744	785,399
<u>785,399</u>	Total funds carried forward 31 December		<u>509,643</u>	<u>10,526</u>	<u>120,089</u>	<u>126,909</u>	<u>767,167</u>

ALL SAINTS' PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
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Balance sheet as at 31 December 2020

2019 £		Notes	General funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total £
Fixed assets							
492,200	Tangible fixed assets	7	486,760	-	-	-	486,760
186,084	Investment assets	8	-	10,526	71,622	126,909	209,056
<u>678,284</u>	Total fixed assets		<u>486,760</u>	<u>10,526</u>	<u>71,622</u>	<u>126,909</u>	<u>695,816</u>
Current assets							
0	Stock		-	-	-	-	-
7,675	Debtors (tax recoverable)	9	-	-	-	-	-
68,844	Short term deposits		18,919	-	48,368	-	67,286
30,597	Cash in hand and at bank		3,965	-	100	-	4,065
<u>107,115</u>	Total current assets		<u>22,883</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>48,468</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>71,351</u>
Liabilities(Creditors): amounts falling due within one year							
0	Interest Free Loans		0	-	-	-	0
0	Barber Rooms costs	10	0	-	-	-	0
<u>107,115</u>	Net current assets		<u>22,883</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>48,468</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>71,351</u>
Liabilities(Creditors): amounts falling due after one year							
0	Interest Free Loans		0	-	-	-	0
<u>785,399</u>			<u>509,643</u>	<u>10,526</u>	<u>120,089</u>	<u>126,909</u>	<u>767,167</u>
Funds of the church							
Unrestricted funds							
531,046	General fund		509,643	-	-	-	509,643
9,848	Designated fund	12	-	10,526	-	-	10,526
<u>540,895</u>			<u>509,643</u>	<u>10,526</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>520,169</u>
125,761	Restricted funds	11	-	-	120,089	-	120,089
118,744	Endowment fund	11	-	-	-	126,909	126,909
<u>785,399</u>	Total funds of the church		<u>509,643</u>	<u>10,526</u>	<u>120,089</u>	<u>126,909</u>	<u>767,167</u>
			-	-	-	-	-

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 26 May 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

Rev Dr Steve Bellamy
Chair, PCC

Dr David Wilson
Treasurer

ALL SAINTS' PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020

Notes to the accounts

2019		2020			
Total funds	2 INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment
£		£	£	£	£
	2a Voluntary Income				
	Planned Giving:				
60,529	Tax - efficient planned giving (excl. tax)	75,830	-	5,000	-
19,702	Tax recovered/recoverable	19,793	-	1,630	-
6,990	Other planned giving (bankers order and payroll)	16,070	-	-	-
9,751	Collections of loose cash at services	1,483	-	-	-
	Legacies	-	-	-	-
2,764	Barber Rooms Appeal (Gift Aided dons)	-	-	-	-
66	Barber Rooms Appeal (Non Gift Aided dons)	-	-	-	-
	Grants Received towards activities	900	-	-	-
2,780	Youth Work Related Donations	-	-	-	-
	Mission Fund Donations	-	-	-	-
	Little All Sorts Donations	-	-	100	-
1,200	Delta Cross Ministries Donations	-	-	1,200	-
5,865	Other donations (Gift Aided)	4,592	-	1,460	-
7,395	Other donations (Non Gift Aided)	1,379	-	2,465	-
	Furlough payments from HMRC	1,383	-	-	-
321	Wall Safe/Cask etc.	-	-	-	-
117,362		121,429	-	11,855	-
	Activities for generating funds				
	Fetes, Bazaars, Other fund-raising events	-	-	-	-
	2b Investment Income				
651	Deposit accounts (CBF, CAF, Virgin)	106	-	207	-
3,738	CBF Investment Account Dividends	933	-	3,081	-
4,389		1,039	-	3,288	-
	2c Incoming resources from charitable activities				
8,591	Fees - weddings, funerals etc	6,318	-	-	-
811	Church magazine	722	-	-	-
3,170	Room Hire	1,070	-	-	-
12,572		8,110	-	-	-
	Other incoming resources (If required)	-	-	-	-
	3 EXPENDITURE				
	3a Raising Funds				
0	Stewardship Campaign. Gift Aid Envelopes etc.	89	-	-	-
	3b Missionary and Charitable Giving (see note 6)				
9,450	Overseas Mission, Relief & Aid	7,300	-	4,040	-
2,025	Home Missions	1,525	-	420	-
2,095	Secular Charities	200	-	1,045	-
13,570		9,025	-	5,505	-
	3c Church Activities				
1,309	Ministry: Clergy Expenses	464	-	-	-
17,052	Curate Costs	14,619	-	-	-
1,038	Other Staff & Expenses	504	-	-	-
3,737	Church Cleaning	3,463	-	-	-
4,543	Heat Light & Water	4,370	-	-	-
599	Telephone & Wi-Fi	371	-	-	-
5,078	Insurance	5,152	-	-	-
2,701	Repairs & Maintenance: Organ & Bells	-	-	2,880	-
41,533	Other (mainly Quinquennial work)	25,953	-	6,250	-
3,473	Church Development	-	-	-	-
1,626	Cost of church services	3,921	-	-	-
1,150	Upkeep of Churchyard	755	-	-	-
1,089	Magazines Expenses	214	-	-	-
1,698	Training, Mission & Education	898	-	-	-
5,000	Depreciation charge for year (Barber Rooms etc.)	5,440	-	-	-
	Other expense items	-	-	12,438	-
7,560	Admin, Printing, Stationery, Bank Charges	7,982	-	-	-
99,187		74,104	-	21,568	-
	3d Governance Costs				
200	Audit fees, legal advice, PCC meetings	200	-	-	-
	4 STAFF COSTS				
10,051	Wages & Salaries	10,205			
2	Average no. of employees	2			

During the year the PCC employed a cleaner and an administrator (and for part of the year a 2nd cleaner). Both these posts are part time. No payments were large enough to attract Social Security costs (NI) or to qualify either of them for auto enrolment in a Pension Scheme.

There were no employee benefits paid to any staff in this, or previous, years

ALL SAINTS' PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020

Notes to the accounts

5 Trustee remuneration and expenses - related parties

No members of the PCC received any remuneration for their work on the PCC. The clergy, who are ex officio members do receive a stipend but are not remunerated for their service on the PCC. No PCC members claimed expenses although they would be entitled to claim travel costs for attending meetings.

6 Grants made - grants were made to the following institutions:

Christian Aid	750.00	CMS	3000.00
Wycliffe Bible Translators	200.00	Delta Cross Ministries (Botswana)	1200.00
INF (Pokhara Hospital)	1200.00	Interserve	1000.00
Scripture Union	200.00	The Bible Society	200.00
The Children's Society	1170.00	Simeon's Trustees	175.00
Tear Fund	750.00	Torch Trust	100.00
Tap Twinning (Tear Fund)	2840.00	Bankuet (Food Banks)	1045.00
WATSAN	600.00	Molly's Flowers	100.00
Royal British Legion		CTIAAF Subs	
Crisis			

2019 TOTAL

13570.41

TOTAL

14530.00

No grants were made to individuals.

7 Tangible fixed assets (all unrestricted)

	Freehold land & buildings £	Fixtures fittings & equipment £	Other £	Total £
Cost or valuation				
At 1 January 2020	500,000	2,200	-	502,200
Additions/Disposals	-	-	-	-
Revaluations	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2020	500,000	2,200	-	502,200
Depreciation				
At 1 January 2020	10,000	-	-	10,000
Charge for year	5,000	440	-	5,440
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2020	15,000	440	-	15,440
Net book value				
At 1 January 2020	490,000	2,200	-	492,200
At 31 December 2020	485,000	1,760	-	486,760

8 Investment assets

Fixed asset investments	£
Carrying (market) value on 1 January 2020	186,084
Add additions at cost/value	10,550
Less disposals at carrying value	(3,000)
Net gain/(loss) on revaluation	15,423
Market Value - 31st December 2020	209,056

9 Debtors and prepayments (no amounts were due in more than one year)

Amounts falling due within
one year

	2020 £	2019 £
Accrued income - tax refund due	0	7,675

10 Creditors and accruals (no amounts were due in more than one year)

Amounts falling due within
one year

	2020 £	2019 £
Accruals	0	0

11 Endowment and restricted funds

	Fund balances b/f £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Fund balances c/f £
Endowment funds					
Craven/Rawlings/John Wright (Inv A/C)	18,383	-	-	1,264	19,647
Haines/Spinage (Inv A/C)	2,924	-	-	201	3,125
Celia Walker Fund (Inv A/C)	97,437	-	-	6,700	104,137
	118,744	-	-	8,166	126,909
Restricted funds					
Chamberlain (Organ Fund) (Invest)	54,439	0	3,000	5,290	56,729
Chamberlain (Organ Fund) (Deposit)	136	3,003	2,880	0	260
Celia Walker Fund (Curr+Deposit)	25,034	3,127	10,550	0	17,611
Celia Walker Fund (Invest)	0	10,550	-	979	11,529
Bell Ringers Fund (Deposit)	4,317	18	-	(0)	4,336
Clock & Chimes Fund (Palmer)	653	0	653	0	0
Little All Sorts fund	0	100	-	0	100
Fabric Fund (Quinquennial grants etc.)	20,765	65	12,438	0	8,392
Accrual for tax refund	322	-	322	0	0
Mission Fund	16,682	71	-	0	16,753
Boffin (Bells, clock, chimes) (Inv)	3,053	-	-	311	3,364
Boffin (Bells, clock, chimes) (Deposit)	360	657	-	0	1,017
	125,761	17,591	29,842	6,580	120,089

12 Designated Funds

	£	£	£	£	£
Coach Lane Investment Fund	9,848	-	-	677	10,526

Independent Examiner's Report to the Parochial Church Council of ALL SAINTS'

I have examined the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet and related notes.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC (Charity trustees) and Independent Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

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 accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Gill Garrard
FCCA and Independent Examiner
Westview
3 Standford Road
Faringdon
OXON SN7 7AQ

8 May 2021

