

Annual Report


Celebrating God's Work through St. Mark's

—

2022



St Mark's



We are passionate about journeying alongside all ages and backgrounds as they discover more of Jesus. We are people who party, proclaim and pray.

CONTENTS

2022 Vicar's Report

2022 Reports from Staff Team

2022 Mission Report

2022 Operations Report

– including Fabric, Finance and General Purposes

2022 Safeguarding Report

Facts and Figures

2022 PCC leadership and make up



We thank you for your generous support and hope that you have enjoyed our service this evening.

Our retiring collection is for the work of Christian

Life and its fullness John 10:10

www.s





Mike Resch

Vicar's Report

One of the joys of writing a report each year is to reflect on what God has been doing over the previous 12 months. 2022 has seen a freeing up of life after the pandemic and opportunities to start gathering again. As with all years there have been highs and lows and it's good to face these together.

The purpose of this report is a legal requirement to show what St Mark's has been doing and the benefits we make to the local community. As a church we continue to welcome all into our community who wish to join us. It means that we all have to play our part not only in greeting people but by going the extra mile and welcoming them into the church. Our vision remains the same as Jesus commissioned us, "go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father, Son and of the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 28:19). For us the immediate location is Harrogate rather than the whole world. We can assist in this call beyond Harrogate but we need to trust our brothers and sisters in Christ to play their part where God has called them to live and minister.

What does that sound like in non-biblical speak? Maybe "transforming Harrogate one life at a time through Jesus." Which to be honest still sounds clunky but puts across the notion of "Your Kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven" (Matthew 6 v10). The marketing gurus among you might come up with some snappier slogan no doubt like, "To know Jesus and to make Jesus known". The values of Up, In, Out have been the hallmark of St. Mark's in recent years. With these we also need to remember the direction of travel, the place and the vision that God has given us. It is a massive task and one we embark on because of the love, joy and peace we have discovered in Jesus and therefore want to share that with others. To see Harrogate transformed means we all need to play our part and join in the adventure. It also means we need to gather together to encourage each other and to receive encouragement when things are tough personally. It means being equipped to understand and take part in the Kingdom message. This also means being empowered by the Holy Spirit to be not only aligned with God but open

and expectant of him using us to further his Kingdom.

We need a staff team that can support you in that role, rather than you supporting the staff team to do all the fun Kingdom stuff. The staff has seen some changes this year with Dan, Julia, Susie, Kim and Chris moving on, each one leaving with experience, skills and talents that has left a big hole, but each going to do amazing things for God in new places with new ministries. Dan and Kim were full time but as yet haven't been replaced and this has meant a busy time for those remaining. This year we also saw Richard and Sally Marjoribanks move to Nottingham which has meant a big upheaval in our Financial logistics as a church. As I write we are still getting to grips with the financial structure but hope by the APCM we will have a clearer framework in place. Catherine, Eleanor, Hannah and Liz have joined. Catherine has taken on some office duties to help Cathy in the office alongside Catherine's role as Pastoral Director. Eleanor has been a direct replacement for Susie overseeing the plethora of safeguarding admin.

In financial terms Hannah and Liz replaced Natalie but have two distinct roles. Hannah leading the Youth ministry and Liz leading the Families and Children's ministry. This strategic move is already starting to see fruit, and the desire to see less of a drop off from Year 6 to 7 is also looking hopeful.

Like most charities since the pandemic and now the cost of living crisis we find ourselves in a particularly tough place and are so thankful to all those who give to the life and mission of St. Mark's.

As you read this annual report, I hope you feel uplifted and encouraged. I also hope some will feel inspired to get even more involved to know Jesus and to make Jesus known.



Dan Watts

Associate Minister's Report

It is the beginning of December, two days after having broken the news to the church family that I have a new job (Vicar of Christ Church Downend in Bristol) and so Julia and I will be leaving St Mark's in the new year. I know that it came as a shock to many of you and I confess to feeling a whole mix of emotions – excitement, joy, sadness and a little bit of anxiety. But now I am sitting in front of my computer, trying to write my annual report for 2022.

I think St Paul says what I would want to express much better than I ever could in the beginning of his letter to the Philippians.

Chapter 1 verses 3-11 says,

"I thank my God every time I remember you. 4 In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy 5 because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, 6 being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

7 It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart and, whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God's grace with me. 8 God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus.

9 And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, 10 so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, 11 filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God."

So just as Paul thanks God for the Philippian Church and their partnership in the gospel, whenever we remember St. Mark's, Julia and I will do so with gratitude and thanksgiving for the time we have served here and for all you have meant to us. But we thank God too for all that we have achieved for the sake of the gospel and the furtherance of the Kingdom of God during our time here. For the

growth and development of the children's and youth work; for children and adults that have come to know and experience Jesus' love; for people that we have accompanied on the ups and downs of life's journey. We are thankful for the leaders I have sought to train, develop, release and encourage and for all the people that have stepped into new areas of ministry and grown in the gifting that God had placed within them. The development and delivery of Step-Up to grow discipleship and leaders within the church has been such a joy and a blessing; not forgetting the development of our communities to empower us all to become lifelong disciples that make disciples.

I am reminded that the last three years have been less than straight forward – a lengthy vacancy with a number of significant challenges to work through - not to mention a pandemic with lockdown and the re-opening of church, to navigate. But Paul's words to the Philippians ring true: "being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will complete it". The God we love and serve is faithful – He always completes what He starts. God is always at work, even when it seems that He is silent or apparently inactive. He is at work through the trials and crisis of our lives and in the deserts and on the mountain tops. God is our Father and He loves us and He will never leave us or abandon us. Clergy and other leaders will come and go, but God the Father remains, carrying on His quiet work of shaping you into the likeness of Christ. God the Father is good, faithful and unchanging; He is bringing about the growth. In John 15 Jesus says, "I am the vine: you are the branches, if a person remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing". The life of a disciple is a constant call to respond to the voice of the master and his call. It is a life of obedience and trust. As we learn to 'abide' in Christ so we become more fruitful; relationship before results.

Finally, we would continue to encourage you to love, care and support Mike and Liz just as you have Julia and I along with our children. Leaving Kent and arriving in the midst of the pandemic has not been straightforward for them and many of the usual joys and sorrows of moving house and joining a new church community have been more challenging than usual. But one of your greatest gifts as a church family is your love, care and hospitality and so we urge you to continue to cherish and pray for both Liz and Mike as they lead and serve you all.

Julia and I know that God has called us to Christ Church and we are excited to see what he will do in us and through us in this next chapter of our life of faith and discipleship. But we are also sad, sad to be leaving St. Mark's and a church family that has loved us, held us, encouraged us and supported us as a family. Both Megan and Sam would say Harrogate is their home, this is where they grew up – they both consider themselves to be Yorkshire (they even speak with a northern accent!) St Mark's has been our family for thirteen and half years, we are known and loved. To choose to leave is just as hard and painful for us as it is for you.

Julia and I will continue to pray for you as Paul prayed for the Philippian Church – that you may grow in the knowledge and love of Christ and that you would live more like Jesus, doing what he would do - to the glory and praise of God.





Liz Resch

Children's and Families Ministry Leader

Children are part of our focus at St Marks, disciples who we walk alongside as we all grow more like Jesus. This year our vision has built on all that has gone before, in seeking to reach children with the story of Jesus, to give opportunities and space for a personal relationship with Jesus, and to encourage and release each child into using their God-given gifts.

Throughout the year The Tide team has worked hard in meeting with their group, to lead and encourage everyone in their own journey of faith. The Tide team is an incredible group of volunteers who give the children and St Marks so much. We really do appreciate all that the team is, and all that God does in and through their faithful work. A particular thanks to Rachel Tunncliffe,

Becky Onslow, and Lizzy Stansfield, and Rachel Batchelor who does a lot of admin for Waves. I am also greatly encouraged in the work that Hannah Ferguson is growing as she works with our young people on Sundays and through the week.

This year has seen a couple of new ventures. Church at 4 which started in October, meets for an hour: sharing drinks, eating toast and writing prayers, before we all join together for our service.

The time together is relaxed, open and fun. We ask questions, pray, worship and learn what it is to be a disciple. A massive thank you to the small team who run the toast bar, and drinks. We would love to grow this team, maybe you could offer to give an afternoon a month to help out?

We have also had a number of Family Fun Zone events. A time to get together, have fun and relax. The Jesse Tree and craft time were really enjoyable sessions. There is much more planned for 2023.

Having started as Children and Families lead in May, I have been blessed to work alongside a great team on Sunday mornings, and during the week. I've had the privilege of joining in with the dance ministry, Toddler ministry, and the children's events team. Thanks to all who give their time so generously to the valuable work. I have also been able to begin to build relationships with Oatlands Infants school, and Rossett Acre which is really encouraging.

Please join me in praying for God to continue to bless this work, that we may grow in our worship of God, and the work of the Holy Spirit. I pray for more of God, that our hearts are set on fire with love for him, for our mission with and among children to bear much fruit.

Gail Vlack

Baptism Ministry Report

Our baptism visiting team supports families that are having children baptised at St. Mark's by visiting them at home before and after the baptism, introducing them to the ministries of the church, helping them connect and praying for them.

24 families had children baptised in 2022, with 28 children altogether being baptised throughout the year.

Thanks to our team of seven volunteer baptism visitors and also those members of our congregation that accompany them on home visits. By providing a warm welcome, information about our church community and offering support they are sharing the love of Jesus and being missional in their outreach. This year we have seen more fruit from our baptism ministry with families engaging with church, toddler praise and Alpha (sometimes several years after a baptism).

Families give very positive feedback following the baptisms, and mention the warm welcome, the personal feel of the service and the relaxed atmosphere.

We have increased the use of the offering plate for a retiring collection following the baptisms and families had expressed an interest in being able to easily give money to the church. Families and guests give generously to the church at the baptisms.

We held a very successful baptism picnic in June 2022. For the first time we were able to make the most of our garden for the picnic, and 14 families attended (more than ever before). It was a time to celebrate, make connections and build on relationships and encourage links between the families.

Thanks to Janet Green for ensuring the resources we provide to the families are up to date, relevant and invitational. Thanks to Ann Fitzgerald for her secretarial support, this has supported clergy and office staff and allowed smooth communication with the families, godparents and visitors.

In the coming year we would love to add a few new volunteers to our visiting team. We would love to see even more baptism families attending church regularly following the baptism.



Gail Vlack

Toddler Ministry Report

Our Toddler Ministry team vision is to develop the lives and potential of young children and their families by creating a fun, safe environment to play, share and grow. We show God's love by building relationships in a nurturing, supportive, welcoming community where every adult and child feels cared for and valued.

We hold Toddler Groups on Tuesdays & Thursdays weekly and Toddler Praise on Mondays & Wednesdays each fortnight and Baby Group on Thursdays each fortnight. We engage with about 60 families across all these groups, a few of these are from our church or other churches in Harrogate, but most are from non-church attending families.

The use of ChurchSuite and having families register online has helped communication with groups, and encouraged families to attend regularly, allowing relationships to form and develop. It has also allowed natural turnover so we can continue to welcome new families and not keep spaces for people who are no longer able to attend.

Our Baby Group has really grown since September. We are encouraged to see young mums and their babies coming along regularly, building relationships and supporting each other. This is then a great way to lead them into toddler groups and extend invitations to our other ministries as the children get older. We received a grant from North Yorkshire Early Help team which allowed us to purchase new resources and give away books to the children.



In June we held a Toddler Leader Gathering for leaders from churches across Harrogate. This was so successful we are expanding this to meet twice a year in different churches as we continue to build relationships with other groups and share good practice and wonderful stories of God at work.

We are thankful to our team of 16 volunteers who use their gifts and talents to support families in our community and show the love of Jesus each week.

In the coming year we will continue to look for ways to be invitational to our toddler families, to forge links between groups and between our Monday Mums Community and help toddler families get connected to our wider church family.



Gail Vlack

Children's Events Report

Children's Events at St. Mark's aim to inspire children and families to love and follow Jesus. Our one-off events for primary-aged children (& their families) allow them to party, proclaim and pray.

This year we held Easter Encounter on a Friday evening in April. More than 50 children and their families attended as we enjoyed food, games, crafts, quizzes, worship and prayer. It was wonderful to see the church full, with families celebrating together.

Our Light Party was held on October 31st, as a safe, Christ-centred alternative to Halloween for families with primary-aged children. Just over 20 children and their families gathered to celebrate the light of Jesus with food, crafts, games, worship and lots of sweets!

Thank you to Chris Holland & her team for supporting us with catering and refreshments. Thank you to Becky Onslow for her amazing support with planning & admin and all our amazing volunteers and leaders.

This year we launched our Dance Ministry team, thanks to the fantastic creative talents of Ruth Dodds. A group of 22 primary aged boys and girls gathered on Sunday mornings to practice and were able to perform an act of worship during the Easter Encounter party and during worship on Easter Sunday. We also held summer dance ministry workshops with a small group of children. It was a wonderful opportunity to encourage creative worship, as well as prayer, it developed confidence, independence, and grew relationships between children of different ages.

In 2023 we would love to hold an Easter event for families and a Light Party in October. We will also look to develop a Holiday Club team of leaders and volunteers to see if a summer holiday club is a possibility. We would love to encourage more youth to be equipped to serve at these events. And we will continue to look at how dance ministry can grow.



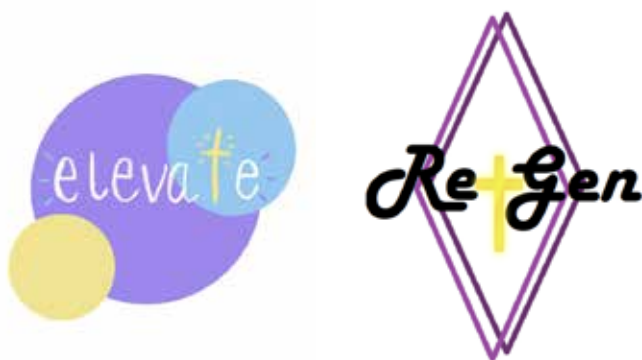
Hannah Ferguson

Youth Ministry Report

My vision for the Youth Ministry is for it to follow the party, proclaim and pray dimensions of the St Mark's vision; both on its own as a youth ministry, part of the wider church family and as part of Harrogate-wide youth initiatives. All to ultimately draw our young people together to worship, build relationships with God and each other, and to share the good news of Jesus and the Kingdom of God with their friends.

Since starting as Youth Pastor in September, our Year 7-13 Sunday evening group has been revamped. Now called ReGen, this is a social space where young people play games, do crafts and get to know each other.

I have launched a new Year 7-9 Sunday morning group, Elevate, where our young people enjoy discussing current topics and building upon their



knowledge and faith.

We hosted a Youth Glow Party alongside 6 other churches. Attended by 112 young people from across Harrogate, they had a space to worship, hear about how Jesus can be a light in their life, have food and participate in a range of exciting activities.

I am extremely thankful for the team of faithful volunteers who continued to meet weekly with the young people of St Mark's in the absence of a Youth Pastor. I would also like to thank the new volunteers who have joined the Youth Team. Without our teams of amazing volunteers, the ministries could not happen. You are all incredible.

Please continue to pray for our young people as they navigate through difficult stages in their lives. Please also be open to the calling of God for you to join one of our fabulous teams of volunteers.

Shirley Jones

Prayer Ministry Report

Prayer is an important part of the life of St Marks Church and is key to the individual believer's relationship with God. By following Jesus' example to pray with people for wholeness and healing, Prayer Ministry is an essential resource for the body of Christ.

One highlight this year is being able to provide prayer ministry opportunities at both the 9am and 10.30am and to support the 6.30pm Sunday services. It is always a highlight of praying for others when we witness God working in people's lives and answering prayers. We have seen healing for back conditions and help in situations that seemed impossible and emotionally distressing for the person being prayed for. We have been encouraged by the feedback from those who we have been praying for, in particular from Hannah and Dave Ferguson whose daughter Keziah was healed following prayer ministry one Sunday morning. We don't always hear when God has been at work following prayer, but we have an expectancy that He touches, in some way, everyone we pray for. It would be really encouraging for the whole church

to hear from anyone that has been ministered to in prayer and who has received a blessing from God. This would then help remind us all that prayer works.

The team is 13 people strong, with 9 people available to be on a rota. We said goodbye to Sally Marjoribanks this year, a faithful and committed member of the team and issues surrounding Covid have also reduced the number of team members available to pray after services. We would love to see new members with a commitment and a heart for praying with others to join our team. Training is provided. We seek God's wisdom and guidance for all our and others' needs. We are committed to prayer and to keeping up to date with training and to meeting together to minister to and encourage one another. We provide an internet prayer presence and respond instantly to those prayer requests received by email. A small group are also part of the intercessory prayer team who regularly pray each week.



Frances Bryant

Prayer Coordinator Report



Being 'Good News' people – people who party, proclaim the good news of Jesus, and pray – is at the heart of who we are at St Mark's. The prayer life at St Mark's is part of that, helping us deepen our dependence upon God and intercede for our local community, our church, our nation and the world. We particularly focus on praying for the mission partners supported financially by St Mark's. We focus on our six long-term mission partners at our monthly prayer gatherings, on Sundays, and in our prayer diary, highlighting the work they are doing to bring God's justice, peace and love to both local and global neighbours.

- 4 Creation Prayer videos – guided reflections crafted from our congregation's prayers written during COP26, and edited with stunning visuals by Janet Green
- Daily COP27 prayer emails being sent out to the whole church family, and across the Diocese
- Focused Climate prayer Gatherings, including a COP27 prayer evening
- Monthly prayer meetings highlighting mission partners on Zoom / in person... the most memorable being a Zoom meeting on our hottest day in July, with mission partners Paul and Ruth Turner who joined us from Peru, wrapped up well in their southern hemisphere winter!
- Prayer Trails in the church garden – special thanks to Deborah Booth



Volunteers make up the whole team which leads our intercessions Sunday by Sunday, and it's also volunteers who help us connect with our church mission partners. I am thankful for all these people who give their time and expertise to prepare and lead our prayers so thoughtfully. They encourage us to bring all aspects of life to God in prayerful dependence on Him. There is always room for more pray-ers, so I look forward to building up the team in the coming year.

Catherine Gibbon

Pastoral Support Report

This year has been a positive one for pastoral support within St Marks church. We are very fortunate to have such a strong team and we have grown in numbers (now 19 of us). Many on the team take on specific roles such as writing bereavement cards, hospital visiting, post hospital support, making meals, taking home communion to the housebound or ill, lifts to church and appointments, telephone calling, practical support and bereavement support (we have two qualified bereavement counsellors and one counsellor on the team).

As a large team, I have tried to create opportunities for the members to get to know each other better. We held our annual pastoral retreat at Hampsthwaite where Dan came and led us in a day of encouragement, refreshment and equipping in our role as pastoral carers. We have held two socials for the team this year, which has been a new and positive addition to the calendar.

Another change has been to facilitate safeguarding training as a group. The pastoral team has three sets of safeguarding training to do – a total of 5 hours including a course on awareness of domestic abuse, so doing it alongside each other has been hugely beneficial to learning, and discussing the issues raised. We also had an outside speaker, Reverend Haley Matthews from Leeds Diocese to come and speak to the team about keeping themselves safe in their role. All these events as well as running the bereavement journey together has strengthened the team and relationships within it.

Pastoral update meetings with the clergy and overseers of the pastoral team (myself and Christine Hornby) now take place once a month.

The newcomer welcome tea's were held once every 1-2 months throughout 2022 until the summer, at someone's home, many of which we were fortunate to be able to hold in the garden, creating a wonderful space for the children to run around and play together, whilst all enjoying afternoon tea, getting to hear more about St Marks and getting to know each other. The venue moved to St Marks at the end of summer and it has been difficult to resume these to the regular rhythm now that there are so many services on a Sunday. This is something for us to focus on again in 2023.

In January and October we ran the Bereavement Journey at St Marks (one on an evening and the second in the day time). The feedback has been very positive and participants have found the course very beneficial. In January there were 8 people on the course, 4 from St Marks and 4 from other churches / no church background. All chose to attend the final session which is the only one that focusses on 'faith question's and is an optional extra session to the course. The course was created by Holy Trinity Brompton, runs in a similar style to Alpha with two videos and small discussion groups with the aim to support bereaved people from a church's local community whether of any faith or non. The course in October was attended by 4 people who attend St Marks and two people from the Cathedral in Ripon who came on the course specifically to be equipped to run the course themselves at the Cathedral (Ripon's course is running in January).

Looking ahead to 2023 we are holding our Thanksgiving and Remembrance service in January this year (it is usually held in November). This is to avoid the confusion with the Remembrance Day service, an opportunity to invite those who attend to upcoming Bereavement Journey course and acknowledges that January can be a very difficult time of year for people after Christmas. If it works well this time of year, we will continue to hold it then.

In February, we are holding our fourth Bereavement Journey at St Marks, which will be advertised within St Marks and across Harrogate, including via the local Funeral Directors and Wellspring. It is my aim that each time we run the course, another local church will attend with the aim of then taking it back to their own church to run.

It is my hope to recruit some more men to the pastoral and bereavement team (we currently have two on the team) to get alongside other men requiring pastoral and bereavement support.



Janet Green

Communication & Digital Report

Good communication can help us to live out our calling to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. The digital and communications role is to support St Mark's to do this in the unique context in which we are placed, and in a way that is most effective and relevant to the various audiences that we seek to serve.

During 2022, we have seen many people return to St Mark's. As ministries and events have started again the amount of communication required to inform our church family of the mission and ministry of St Mark's has returned to pre-pandemic levels. We continue to give thought and consideration too, to our wider audience and those not yet part of our church family, including newcomers and seekers.

We are aware, that for some, returning to church is still difficult. In 2022 we spent time identifying and communicating with those who have not been seen in church post Covid as a way to help the staff team understand individual situations and offer support if required.

GDPR guidelines place churches in a special category because it is an expression of religious belief. We have therefore been seeking written consent from anyone who is identifiable on camera. To adhere to the guidelines but not restrict service content or those involved, we reduced the live broadcast of services to the 9am sermon only, where we can be certain who will appear on camera.

The nature of communications means working across the breadth of the church, with teams, volunteers and individuals. There is much joy in supporting the church to regularly communicate their ministries or information in the most effective way possible, and this is often through multiple channels including social media. I seek to document the fullness of life at St Mark's - demonstrating our desire to be people who party, proclaim and pray. Some communications particular to 2022 have included:

- Identifying post-Covid changes within the church family, cleansing and updating the database to reflect these changes and supporting others to use the ChurchSuite system to its full potential.
- Creation awareness - Climate prayer videos and communications using both email and social media to highlight pressing climate issues and offering ways to respond.
- Alpha - developing a comms plan to build awareness of Alpha and document and communicate individuals Alpha stories.
- Harrogate Clothes Bank - work on the strategy to highlight this project at St Mark's and help our family engage in the great work of HCB.
- Stewardship campaign - communicating and supporting the church to be generous givers.

I am especially thankful to Jen Denning who continues to update 'A Church Near You' - now a much bigger task with events and services back to normal activity.

I would like to give special thanks for the AV team's faithful commitment to regularly serve in this ministry and to the new members of the team.

I am also thankful to Jon Denning for his incredible IT support, for always answering my endless questions and for fixing everything!

The AV team also work closely with the Zionworx team whom I am so thankful for. Being responsible for what's on the 'big' screen is not without its challenges and they do a wonderful job of staying calm and focussed to ensure others can be fully immersed in services.

Deborah Booth

Environment Report

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres' recent remark was disturbing: "We are on a highway to climate hell with our foot on the accelerator."

As we know, Christianity has a long and impressive history of social action, and St Mark's has always been active and concerned about suffering and injustice in the world. But as the effects of climate change (forest fires, heatwaves, floods) have become more apparent, we are more acutely aware of the vulnerable natural world around us. We find ourselves wanting to align church life with the CoFE 5th mark of mission: "(striving) to safeguard the integrity of creation and renew the life of the earth".

It hits home that Jesus' redemption is for the whole of creation, not just for us humans. The very creation itself needs 'saving'.

A Rocha's Eco Church programme has equipped St Mark's towards this goal, by challenging us to make changes in five different areas of church life - in worship, buildings, land, community engagement and lifestyle. In June we achieved our prestigious Silver Award, presented by our guest, Andrew Jones MP. This year also saw us being filmed for our eco work; introducing car-free Sundays; sending daily prayer emails throughout COP27; and installing eight more bike racks, paid for by a council grant.



St Mark's new Eco Team was formed this year, involving individuals from each area of responsibility to ensure creation care is embedded in all we do and are. The buildings section of this team deserves a special mention - Stuart Holland, Tim Yarborough, Cathy Meadows and Mike Procter - for their skills and painstaking research into drastically reducing our building's carbon footprint (we are one of the 7 highest emitting churches in the Diocese).

May 2023 be the year we achieve our Gold award and progress steadily along the pathway to Net Zero Emissions.

Sam Blakey

Women's Ministry Report

This year has seen Sanctuary return to in-person events after almost two years of successful Zoom events. It was wonderful to return to the church for these and the first one (Dec 2021) really boosted morale as well as hopefully inspiring and renewing faith and friendships, which perhaps had been affected during the pandemic.

Our first post-pandemic event was held on Friday Dec. 3rd with speaker Revd. Michelle Lepine. The team had made gift tags with a verse from Luke 1: 26-28 in line with the theme "You are beautiful with God's beauty, beautiful inside and out!" and these were hung on a tree at the door to the main church. Homemade mince pies, mulled wine and juice punctuated a half-hour of social mixing prior to a period of worship courtesy of Sanctuary Worship Leader Sarah Anderson and her excellent volunteer musicians. After a prolonged period of worship and a reading Michelle gave her talk followed by a period of prayer, with the opportunity for participants to retreat to the front of the church behind the altar for a period of 'soaking'/personal prayer, brilliantly led at each event by Shirley Jones.



SANCTUARY'S next event was September 16th, after it was decided to skip the usual Spring one due to timing constraints. Tea and coffee was served at the beginning and bubbles and deserts made by the team at the end, to encourage participants to stay and mingle. Our speaker was Jenny Campbell, from Eagles in Flight, and her excellent talk was followed by a period where our ladies were encouraged to come forward for prayers. I was unable to participate in the event as I was in hospital, but the team, led by Di Queripel, put on an amazing evening and Jenny's talk really impacted on those attending.

Our final event of the year fell on December 2nd, 2022. This time we were finally able to bring back the craft-making section towards the end of the evening, usually a popular part of our previous Christmas events, but absent from our last in-person Christmas event.

Team members assisted by Dianne Ward (who also did the most amazing decorative wreaths for the refreshment tables, altar and font areas) helped with this part of the event. The ladies were treated to mince pies and cheese (well we are in Yorkshire!), mulled wine and cakes prior to the evening kicking off. We then moved into a prolonged period of worship, again courtesy of Sarah and her wonderful band of volunteers, followed by beautiful poetry and a Bible reading from Judy Methven.

Olivia Lambert gave an excellent talk on the Joy of Christ coming down to live among us!

In summary

Sanctuary events are opportunities for the women of St Mark's and churches across the district, to come together, to hopefully build and bolster friendships. We hope they offer an opportunity also to break through cliques, and indeed we design layouts and activities to ensure this is the case. I noted the demographic in particular at this event whilst chatting to one of our younger participants (a mum with two young children) and there are



currently more 40 plus aged members than teens - something we hope to address over the next couple of events. However, we need to ensure we still plan events going forward so the older members of Sanctuary will still be attracted to come. It may be we need to diversify with book clubs, social evenings out at a wine bar etc so we can appeal to a larger demographic who we can then invite to Sanctuary too. It has always been designed as an evangelical event for people who don't attend church, as well as one that will feed believers and encourage and grow faith. As Sanctuary leader (though really just a key member of a driven team of equally committed women) I notice the women's groups often struggle to attract members or set up regular meetings, partly because of family and/or work commitments. This makes events like Sanctuary even more important and I would love to see our women's ministry grow beyond Sanctuary, perhaps with more of a tie-in between all the arms serving women's ministry.

The team

Sanctuary is made up of a small team of volunteers who give their time and resources to each event. As a ministry with a limited budget, members often have to use their own money to pay for the food, gifts and wine we offer. The readiness with which the team give and the heart they have for Sanctuary humbles me and I am so grateful for their commitment and talents. The main team is made up of myself, Di Queripel (one of the original founders), Iris Linford, Sarah Anderson (Worship Leader), Mel Scott, Alice Littlefair, Jenn Allong, Juliette Leyland and Sue Newton. At the end of the December event, the team said farewell to Iris who was stepping down after an impressive 15 years, having been on the team since Sanctuary's start.

We presented her with a gift from Betty's as a thank you for her invaluable service.

We could also not put on these events without the assistance of Janet Green on the night and Cathy Meadows and the rest of the church team and the worship band volunteers. Thank you all.

Mike Procter

Mission Ministry Report

Alpha

In 2022 we ran two courses for a total of 20 guests, facilitated by two small teams of hosts. The evenings start with a meal, followed by a video or talk on one fundamental of the Christian faith, then there's a 'no holds barred' discussion. Following my appeal to small-groups, the meals were prepared this year by lots of different people and it's been wonderful to see Alpha guests experience a warm welcome from our wider church family.

My hope for 2023 is that every member of St Mark's invites friends, neighbours and colleagues to Alpha. Please point them to our website for more information, and when the dates of the next course are published, gently remind them, and maybe accompany them.

The hope of the Church is transformation by the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Alpha is a wonderful way for us all to help realise that hope.

Please contact me if you are willing to cook a meal, help facilitate the course (chat with guests!), or come as a guest to question or refresh.

Email: alpha@smch.org.uk
smch.org.uk/alpha



Harrogate Clothes Bank

The discussion about the cost-of-living crisis often focuses on food and heating, while many forget another basic necessity: clothing. Harrogate Clothes Bank is a St Mark's project established in 2016. We help bridge this poverty gap locally, providing free seasonal, clean, good quality second-hand clothes to anyone in need. Everything we supply is donated from within the community and offered free of charge on trust, with no proof of income, referral or appointment required. We're located on Hornbeam Park in the Disability Action Yorkshire warehouse and open every Wednesday 10-12 plus one Saturday a month 10-12.



In 2022 our 30 volunteers provided over 8,000 items to more than 550 customers.

Over 60% live in a household with children, 30% in households with someone in employment and 30% were using Harrogate Clothes Bank for the first time.

In addition, we gave sent 700kg of clothes given to a Ukrainian church, transported by Calvery Chapel Harrogate. We gave 1,000kg given to Brotherton Clothes Bank near Selby and we sold for a nominal price 900kg to the CTR Group for reuse, recycling and repurposing. We also provided clothes to other local charities including The Village (formerly Baby Basics).

Our main overhead is rent and our total running cost is about £8,500 per year. This is met by grants, fundraising and donations. Our small unpaid team work very hard to maintain our income and to ensure as many people as possible who might need us, know about us.

We'd welcome more volunteers, not only to help sort donations and serve customers, but also to support our operations by liaising with a few of the many other organisations with whom we work. If you can spare 2 to 4 hours per week please get in touch.

harrogateclothes@gmail.com
HarrogateClothesBank.co.uk



Jose Rhodes

Mission Support Group Report

We give thanks: -

Despite financial constraints, St Mark's maintained its commitment to tithe and over £44,000 was donated to our mission partners.

Our long term partners (Caring for Life, In2Out, Wellspring, Artizan International, Latin Link and Mission without Borders) were also supported in prayer, especially as they recovered after the pandemic.

- Easter and Christmas outreach provided eggs, gifts, and Bible comics to 200 young people in Wetherby Young Offenders Institute and families in IDAS (Domestic Abuse Charity).

2022 will be remembered for: -

The war in Ukraine. Support for our mission partner, Mission without Borders, was increased as they helped local churches in Ukraine struggling to accommodate internal refugees and organizations in Moldova offering sanctuary to many people fleeing the war. Our giving was supported by special evenings of prayer and Zoom links with MWB county director, John Chamberlain, while several members of St Mark's hosted Ukrainian families.

The cost of living crisis at home affected all our mission partners, all of whom were overcoming the after-effects of the pandemic. Our generous budget enabled us to support organisations on the front-line of the economic crisis, including Harrogate Food Bank and homeless missions in Harrogate and Leeds.

Prayers for our mission partners are organized by Frances Bryant while decisions are made by a small dedicated group of Ruth Cundy, Jen Denning, Val Hall. Sadly, Susie McQuade resigned from the MSG on taking up a full time role with Christians Against Poverty in Bradford. We will miss her input but look forward to linking with Susie in her new role.



St Mark's Mission Support Group Allocation of the Budget 2022

LONG TERM MAIN MISSION PARTNERS

Home

Caring For Life	£5,000
In2Out	£5,000
Wellspring	£5,000

International

Latin Link (Turners)	£5,000
Mission without Borders	£5,000
Artizan International	£5,000

OTHER PAYMENTS MADE

Easter and Christmas outreach to Wetherby Young Offenders Institution	£1,086
Lifeline on its 10th anniversary	£1,000
Harrogate Homeless 30th anniversary	£1,000
Harrogate Food Bank	£1,000
St Mark's Clothes Bank	£1,000
CMS for Chris and Anna Hembury	£1,000
St George's Crypt	£1,000
Christians against Poverty	£1,000
Farming Community Network	£1,000
A Rocha UK	£1,000
Children's Society	£500
Mothers' Union AFIA holidays	£500

Overseas

Christian Aid week	£1,000
Tearfund Pakistan/East Africa	£1,000
Open Doors	£1,000

Total Spend	£44,086
Budget remaining	£396

Cathy Meadows

Operations Report

Including Finance & General Purposes and Fabric Report

The office continues to be very busy in terms of a diverse workload and of people calling in, both of which make it an exciting place to be. In June, we employed Catherine Gibbin as Assistant to the Office Manager on 16 hours per week and she, among other tasks, has oversight of our room bookings and invoicing. Since September, Alice Allsopp is our Finance Officer on 4 -5 hours per week and since October, Eleanor Meadows is our new Safeguarding Administrator. Together with our regular staff and office volunteers, Ann, Lee and Steve, Jon our IT help, and clergy, this makes for a very crowded office at times!

We have always been prudent with our finances but are now especially mindful of purchases such as stationery, printing, approving necessary repairs etc as the office is now managing several budgets that were previously carried out by our Treasurer.

The Estate Management Team, all volunteers and skilled in many areas, meet monthly, and it's here that church operations and facilities management are addressed. This year we have managed and tackled:

- Problems with stonework and recurrent leaking guttering
- Drainage in the rear car park
- Repairs eg. to doors, carpets, leaks, broken heating pumps, lighting etc
- Health and Safety concerns including painting new yellow lines in the car park; on a weekly and monthly basis the fire alarms, green buttons and emergency lighting are tested and plans are in place for a new rear car park assembly point
- Implementing fire evacuation practices – these are required by law and we will therefore be continuing with these. Fire Marshall Training has also been delivered and this will be continued too

- Japanese knotweed in the rear garden – work will commence on this in spring 2023 for 10 years.
- Installed a new centralised First Aid Station (north room corridor) although there remains a Burns Kit in the kitchen, and a First Aid Box in the south corridor and in the garden shed.



- Funding from various organisations has been sourced and this has allowed us to install additional bike racks and the garden shed, and in 2023, will fund the management of all the trees in the garden and the repair of the organ humidifier. Installation of the bike racks and shed was handled by an EMT volunteer.
- For 2023, we are seeking funding for additional lighting in the north and south stairwells and in the Community Room. This follows on from an Access Audit Meeting chaired by our Disability Officer, Licy, where clearer lighting and signage was advised to facilitate easier access for all.

Cleaning

Contractor, 'It's Clean', did a very good job of cleaning for us for a year and then abruptly gave notice as they could not get any cleaners for us. For two months, we relied on volunteers to clean

essential areas – kitchen and toilets, and for that I personally am very grateful. From November, we contracted with Better Clean and although this got off to a rather rocky start, seems to be on track now.

Many areas of the church continue to be cleaned by volunteers on a weekly basis and we invested in two new Sebo vacuum cleaners to make the work easier.

Cleaning products prices have risen and we are trialling stand-alone soap dispensers for the time



being

Halstead Road

Repairs, painting, leaks, new doors and locks, and mice, have had to be addressed as well as a new tenancy agreement and our thanks go to Peter in particular for this work.

Carbon Net Zero Building Team

This consists of 4 volunteers from the EMT team, plus myself, who have been tasked by PCC to work out our heating and lighting plans going forwards. We are in the fortunate situation of having a fixed rate contract until August 2023 for both gas and

electricity so it's a race against time. It's been a rather difficult task garnering information, analysing and monitoring many different aspects of the issues including recording daily gas usage. Next steps include planning applications, meeting with suppliers, seeking Diocese approval, funding. Please pray for the very best of outcomes for us as a church.

Kitchen replacement and revamping Community Room

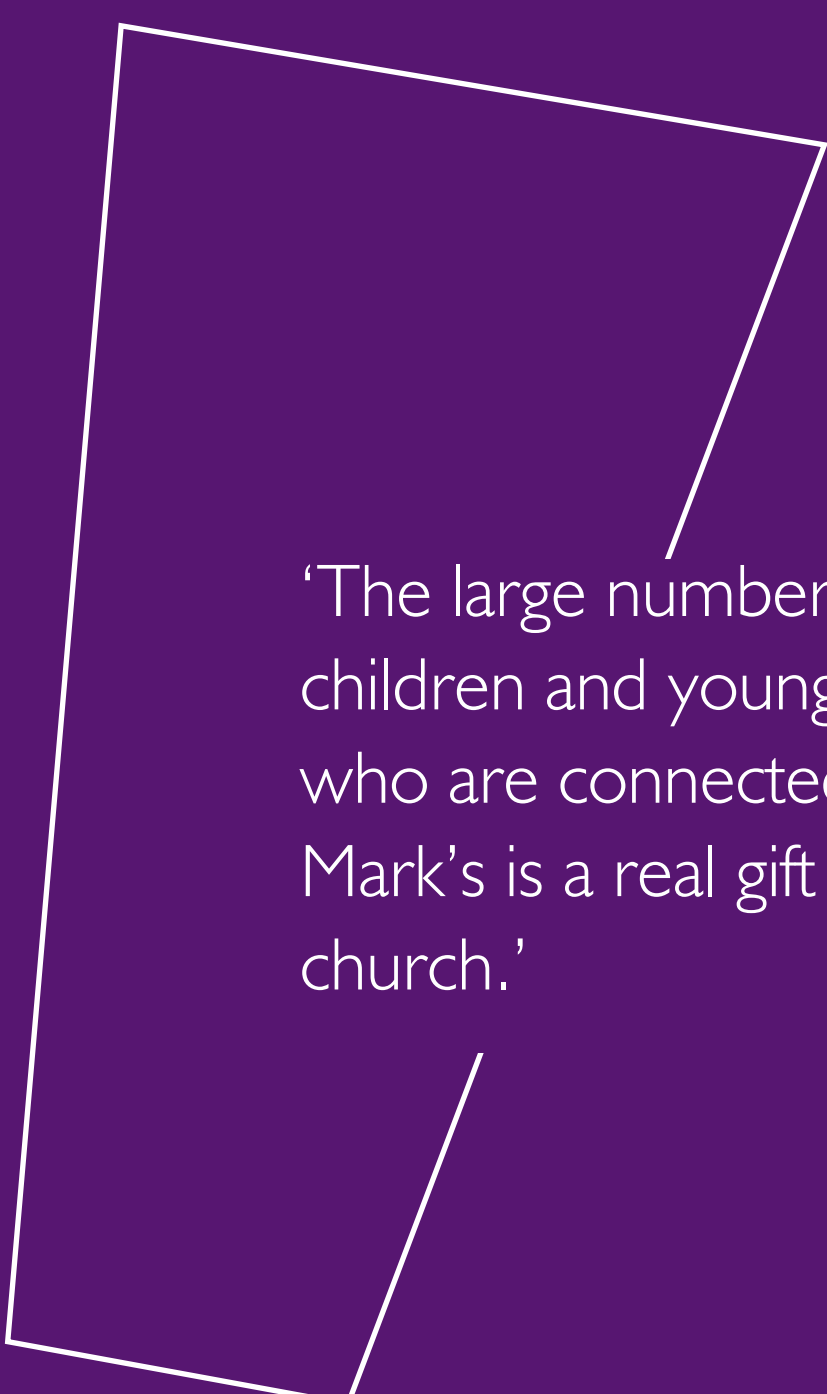
A small team have been tasked with planning a new kitchen and utility room, accelerated by the demise of the dishwasher. Furthermore, once additional lighting is installed to facilitate easier access, this group are looking at making the Community Room a more welcoming space.

Additional items to tackle in 2023

- Intermittent leaking window on south stairs and monitoring of plaster
- Relocation of outside dustbins
- Extra light for north path
- Quinquennial Inspection is due in 2023
- More policies to develop and for PCC to approve
- Old substation, now in our ownership

None of this work could be done without the support of our church family and I am thankful for the wonderful response to emails when we ask for volunteers to come forward.

Romans 11:36 For from him and through him and for him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen.



‘The large number of children and young people who are connected to St Mark’s is a real gift to the church.’

Mark Siddall

Safeguarding Report

The large number of children and young people who are connected to St Mark's is a real gift to the church, and we have all worked hard during the past year to ensure that they are kept safe and well at all times. Safeguarding is becoming more and more rooted in who we are and what we do.

In common with a number of churches around the country, St Mark's employs the Church of England's safeguarding dashboard to monitor its performance against numerous key safeguarding tasks. During the past year we have made progress against the vast majority of such tasks, and we have now achieved the highest level in the dashboard; our aim is to consolidate and improve on that progress during the next 12 months.

Much time has been spent on ensuring the safer recruitment of around 250 volunteers. This has been a substantial undertaking, given the numbers involved, but it has remained a prime focus, in view of its importance as a pillar of good safeguarding practice. We have paid particular attention to ensuring that appropriate safeguarding training levels have been maintained.

This year we adopted a wholly electronic version of the annual confidential self-declaration form, and we also decided to ask all volunteers to complete the form in the same month in order to assist the monitoring process. For the most part the approach also went as planned, although completing the entire activity took longer than anticipated. We will endeavour to further streamline the process next year.

Along with the Communications and Digital Lead the Safeguarding Officer produced some much-needed Social Media Guidelines for the church. It is hoped that these will extend the reach of our safeguarding activity and will support the appropriate use of such media.

From time to time, safeguarding issues of concern have arisen – not surprising in such a large church – and these have been dealt with either internally or in consultation with the diocesan safeguarding team. The Responding to Concerns document – which is intended to inform the congregation as to how to recognise and respond to safeguarding concerns – was also updated during the year.

Susie McQuade, who had held the role of safeguarding administrator, left the post after 6 exemplary, hard-working years, and that role has now been assumed by Eleanor Meadows.

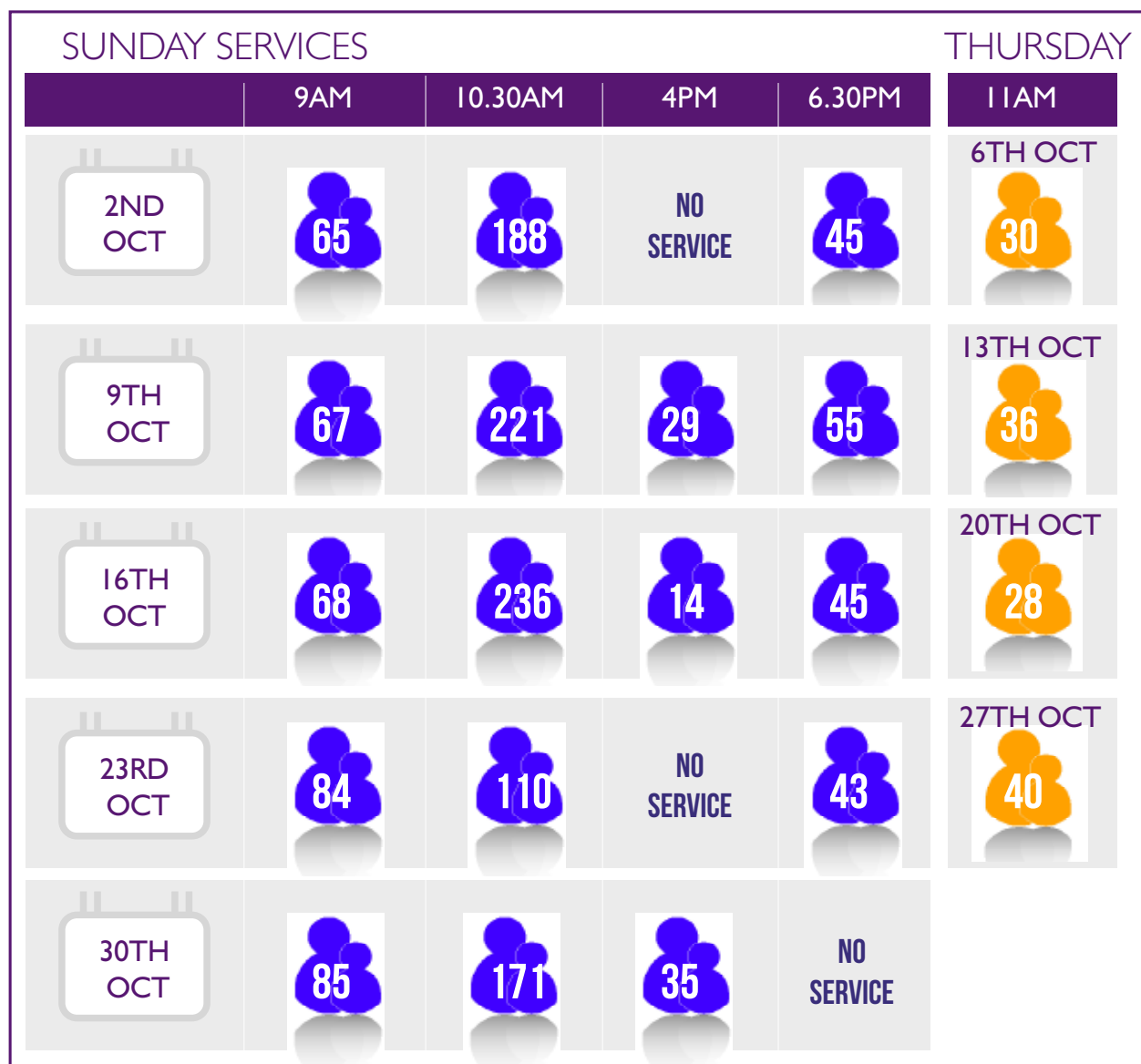
During the next 12 months we will seek to make progress on a medium term aim to extend safeguarding training to include not only volunteers but also members of the wider congregation.



Facts & Figures

Attendance

In-person attendance at October services 2022



Occasional Offices in 2022



BAPTISMS

29

(INCLUDES 1 ADULT)



WEDDINGS

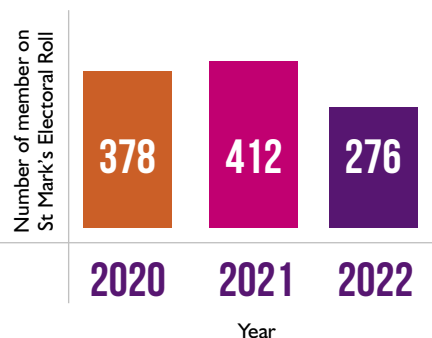
3



FUNERALS

14

Electoral Roll



N.B. We believe the 2022 figure has declined due to Covid and cleansing of the database. Churches can remove someone from the Electoral Role if they haven't attended a church service once a month in the last 6 months. Rules around this can be found in 'Church Representation Rules', a book of legal governance for the church (available online and in the church office).

PCC Leadership & What it is and what it does

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Measure. The appointment of PCC members is governed by and set out in the Church Representation Rules. St Mark's PCC has the responsibility for co-operating with the incumbent in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

It also has maintenance responsibilities for the church building.

It seeks to promote the following stated priorities:

- to worship the living God;
- to grow in faith;
- to serve the people of our parish and community;
- to share Christ's love and truth through our living witness;
- to deepen our links with the world-wide church;
- to work for justice and peace and to care for creation.

The PCC oversees the church's strategic and annual plan, agrees the budget, and monitors progress made against both of these. It oversees the appointment of the members of the leadership team.

Membership 2022:

Incumbent: The Revd. Mike Resch (Chair and Standing Committee); The Revd. Liz Resch (Children's and Families Ministry Leader); Associate Minister: The Revd. Dan Watts (Standing Committee); Curate: The Revd. Kim Mason (until June 2022); Curate: The Revd. James Handley; Associate Vicar: The Rev John Duff; Church Wardens/Standing Committee: Mr David Ferguson (Vice Chair) and Ms Mel Scott; Reader Representative: Mrs Ruth Cundy; Deanery Synod Representatives: Mrs Licy Dorsey (Disability

Officer), Dr Susan Atkin, Mr Steve Brown and Mrs Hazel Robinson. Elected members: Mrs Rebecca Onslow (until APCM 2024), Mr Wayne Brown (until APCM 2025), Mr Mike Procter* (until APCM 2024) (Tree Officer), Mr Neil Tunnicliffe (until APCM 2025), Mrs Carol Bexon (until APCM 2023), Mrs Deborah Booth (until APCM 2024) (Environment Officer), Mrs Ann FitzGerald (until APCM 2023), Mr Mark Siddall (until APCM 2024) (Parish Safeguarding Officer), Mrs Gail Vlack (until APCM 2023) Mrs Jenny Dening (until APCM 2025), Mrs Juliette Leyland (until APCM 2025), Mrs Lee Milne (until APCM 2025), Mr Alex Minnett* (until APCM 2024) and Mrs Zoe Robinson (until APCM 2023) (PCC Secretary/Standing Committee)

* 2 year term determined by lots.

Ceased during 2021: Mrs Alison Glover, Dr Michelle Hayes, Mrs Jeannine Fisher, Mr Chris Mason, Mrs Sarah Ferguson and Mrs Carol Bracher. Mr Richard Majoribanks (ceased May 2022).

Not on PCC but in a designated role and will attend as required: Liz Resch (Children and Families Ministry Leader), Hannah Ferguson (Youth Pastor); Catherine Gibbin (Pastoral Director); Janet Green (Communication & Digital Lead); Frances Bryant (Prayer Co-ordinator); Shirley Jones (Prayer Ministry Co-ordinator); Eleanor Meadows (Safeguarding Administrator); Cathy Meadows (Office Manager/Electoral Roll Officer); Alice Alsop (Accounts Manager); Health & Safety Officer - vacant.

Other PCC committees/groups:

The Standing Committee - chaired by Mike Resch, this is the only committee required by law. It has the power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council, and oversees the week-by-week operations and the finances of the church.

The PCC has two other main sub-committees:

The Strategic Planning Group - which prepares the church's annual strategic/mission plan for the consideration and approval of the PCC, and monitors progress against that plan;

The Estates Management Team - chaired by Cathy Meadows, meets regularly to review and advise on the maintenance of the church infrastructure and estate and the day-to-day management of the building.

Other committees include the Mission Support Group, which aims to engender understanding, involvement and commitment to worldwide mission within St Mark's, and is chaired by Jose Rhodes.

The pattern of PCC meetings has at its heart the need: First, to agree and adopt an annual strategic/mission plan and a supporting budget at the start of each calendar year. To review and approve the annual report, and consider proposals which are required for the consideration of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in April. To review progress against the strategic/mission plan as the year progresses. From the autumn onwards, to consider and approve the next year's plan – and so on, in a repeating annual cycle. PCC members are encouraged to join the teams/groups that deliver the plan, though not at a level that would create conflicts of interest. New PCC members are given information pertinent to their role as members of the PCC and are eligible to attend Diocesan training courses as appropriate. Those attending courses are asked to report back to PCC.

Risk Management: The PCC acknowledges its responsibility to identify, assess and manage the major risks to which it is exposed. It is developing a register of major risks and continues to enhance plans to ensure that systems and processes are in place to mitigate exposure to these risks. Major

risks arise from a variety of aspects of the church's internal operations and external environment, including security, health and safety and finance and individual policies and procedures have been developed to address many of these areas. Monthly financial reports are submitted to PCC and budgets agreed before the start of each year. The PCC is further developing procedures to meet its responsibilities in this area and monitoring implementation of the necessary mitigating actions.

Conflicts Policy: The PCC has adopted a policy to identify any conflicts of interests that any member may have that may exist which could potentially affect the proper operation of the Council. Potential conflicts can arise where a PCC member has a personal interest or involvement in an organisation which the PCC intends to support financially or from which the PCC propose to purchase goods or services. A standard agenda item at the start of every meeting gives opportunity for PCC members to declare potential conflicts that may arise in the course of the meeting and members are also required to declare any conflicts that arise during the course of discussion that had not been identified at the start of the meeting. Conflicts so declared are recorded in the minutes of the meeting along with any action taken to deal with the conflict. Conflicted members will abstain from voting on the relevant issue and may be asked to leave the meeting during discussion if felt necessary. A Register of Interests is completed by all PCC members following the APCM each year.

smch.org.uk   

Visit St Mark's Church, Leeds Road, Harrogate HG2 8AY

Call 01423 544528 **Email** office@smch.org.uk



PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST MARK'S HARROGATE
(CHARITY REG 1134657)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
AND
ANNUAL ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARK'S HARROGATE (CHARITY REG 1134657)

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE PCC OF ST MARK'S CHURCH
HARROGATE**

ON ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Respective Responsibilities of the PCC and Examiner

The PCC are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The PCC consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 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 Charities 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 PCC 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 Charities 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.

D T Kitson FCCA
Bulmer & Co
Chartered Certified Accountants
2 Mount Parade
Harrogate
HG1 1BX

Date 19/04/2023



PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARK'S HARROGATE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds	
				2022 £	2021 £
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Incoming Resources from Donors	2a	403,170	30,864	434,034	366,208
Income from Charitable and Ancillary Trading	2b	24,093	-	24,093	9,096
Other Ordinary Incoming Resources	2c	2,964	5,350	8,314	11,737
Income from Cash Deposits	2d	1,158	-	1,158	34
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		431,385	36,214	467,599	387,075
RESOURCES USED					
Mission & Charitable Giving	3a	39,273	-	39,273	36,624
Activities directly relating to the Work of the Church	3b	347,178	12,525	359,703	338,700
Church Management & Admin	3c	11,795	204	11,999	12,180
TOTAL RESOURCES USED		398,246	12,729	410,975	387,504
NET INCOMING (OUTGOING) RESOURCES		33,139	23,485	56,624	(429)
Investment Property	5	3,796	-	3,796	7,554
Fair Value Gain on Investment Property		-	-	-	20,000
Transfer Between Funds		3,764	(3,764)	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		40,699	19,721	60,420	27,125
Balances Brought Forward at 1 January 2022 (2021)	11	114,509	355,651	470,160	443,035
BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD AT 31 DECEMBER 2022 (2021)	11	155,208	375,372	530,580	470,160

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARK'S HARROGATE

BALANCE SHEET

31 DECEMBER 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Investment Property	5	330,000	330,000
Tangible Fixed Assets	6	10,696	10,164
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors & Prepayments	7	6,500	30,582
Cash at Bank and in Hand	8	194,381	193,951
		200,881	224,533
LIABILITIES - Amounts Falling Due Within One Year	9	(10,998)	(94,537)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		189,883	129,996
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		530,580	470,160
NET ASSETS	10	530,580	470,160
FUNDS			
Unrestricted - Undesignated	11	137,911	99,359
- Designated	11	17,297	15,150
Restricted	11	375,372	355,651
		530,580	470,160

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 19 April 2023 and signed on its behalf by: -

Mr S McKee (Treasurer)

Revd. Mike Resch (Vicar)

The attached notes form part of these Accounts

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARK'S HARROGATE

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the Year Ended 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
<u>Reconciliation of operating income to net cash inflow (outflow) from operating activities</u>			
Net incoming (outgoing) resources for the year		56,624	(429)
Adjustments for:			
Depreciation		3,232	5,230
(Increase) decrease in Stock		-	(8,309)
(Increase) decrease in Debtors		24,082	82,169
Increase (decrease) in Creditors		(83,539)	252
Interest Receivable		(1,158)	(34)
Net cash inflow (outflow) from operating activities		<u>(759)</u>	<u>78,879</u>

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

Net cash inflow (outflow) from operating activities (759) 78,879

Returns on investments

Interest Received		1,158	34
Income from investment property	5	3,796	7,554

Investing activities

Purchase of tangible fixed assets	6	(3,764)	(7,090)
Disposal of tangible fixed assets	6	-	500

Net cash inflow (outflow)		<u>431</u>	<u>79,877</u>
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Cash at bank and on hand at beginning of year		193,951	114,074
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Cash at bank and on hand at end of year	8	<u>194,381</u>	<u>193,951</u>
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PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARK'S HARROGATE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting & Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the United Kingdom & Republic of Ireland (FRS102) issued on 16 July 2014 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom & Republic of Ireland (FRS102), Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and the Charities Act 2011.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the valuation of investment assets, which are shown at market value.

Funds

General funds represent the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application on the general purposes of the PCC. Funds designated for a particular purpose by the PCC are also unrestricted.

The Accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body nor those that are informal gatherings of Church members.

Incoming Resources

Voluntary Income & Capital Sources

Collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC.

Planned giving receivable under covenant and gift aid is recognised only when received.

Income tax recoverable on gift aid donations is recognised in the period that the underlying donation is received.

Grants and legacies to the PCC are accounted for as soon as the PCC is notified of its legal entitlement and the amount due.

Funds raised by the bookstall and all church events are accounted for gross.

Other Ordinary Income

Rental income from the letting of church premises is recognised when the rental is due.

Income from Investments

Dividends and interest are accounted for when receivable. Tax recoverable on such income is recognised in the same accounting year.

Gains and Losses on Investments

Realised gains or losses are recognised when investments are sold. Unrealised gains or losses are accounted for on revaluation of investments at 31 December.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARK'S HARROGATE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Resources Used

Grants

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding obligation on the PCC.

Activities Directly Relating to the Work of the Church

The diocesan quota or parish share is accounted for when payable. Any quota unpaid at 31 December is provided for in these Accounts as an operational (though not a legal) liability if there is a realistic expectation that the arrears will be paid within the following year and is shown as a creditor in the Balance Sheet.

Fixed Assets

Consecrated Land and Buildings and Movable Church Furnishings

Consecrated and beneficed property is excluded from the Accounts by s.10(2) of the Charities Act 2011.

No value is placed on movable church furnishings held by the churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal since the PCC considers this to be inalienable property. All expenditure incurred during the year on consecrated or benefice buildings and movable church furnishings, whether maintenance or improvements, is written off as expenditure in the Statement of Financial Activities and separately disclosed.

Other Property

Freehold property owned by the church is held at fair value within the accounts.

Fixtures, Fittings and Office Equipment

Equipment used within the church premises is depreciated on a straight line basis over 4 years from the date they are brought into use. Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £1,000 or less are written off when the asset is acquired.

Investments

Investments are valued at market value at 31 December. The fair value is based on a professional valuation.

Current Assets

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

Stock

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARK'S HARROGATE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

2. INCOMING RESOURCES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds	
			2022 £	2021 £
2a) Incoming Resources from Donors				
Planned Giving – via Bank	261,929	-	261,929	266,358
Income Tax	54,812	63	54,875	60,769
Recovered/Recoverable				
Planned Giving – via Envelopes	5,785	-	5,785	5,284
Gift Day	52,639	25,000	77,639	6,742
Collections	5,266	-	5,266	2,308
Sundry Donations & Legacies	22,739	5,801	28,540	24,747
	<u>403,170</u>	<u>30,864</u>	<u>434,034</u>	<u>366,208</u>
2b) Income from Charitable Ancillary Trading				
Church Lettings	16,833	-	16,833	6,675
Toddler Groups	2,775	-	2,775	570
Wedding & Funeral Fees	3,968	-	3,968	1,845
Bookstall	517	-	517	6
	<u>24,093</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>24,093</u>	<u>9,096</u>
2c) Other Ordinary Incoming Resources				
Solar Panel Feed-In Tariff	2,964	-	2,964	3,204
Grants	-	5,350	5,350	8,533
2d) Income From Cash Deposits				
Interest	<u>1,158</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,158</u>	<u>34</u>

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARK'S HARROGATE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

3. RESOURCES USED

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £	2021 £
3a) Mission & Charitable Giving				
Home Mission Partners	20,722	-	20,722	13,464
Relief and Development Agencies	-	-	-	8,550
Overseas Missions Partners	18,000	-	18,000	11,000
Miscellaneous	551	-	551	650
Awaiting Allocation	-	-	-	2,960
	39,273	-	39,273	36,624
3b) Activities Directly Relating to Work of the Church				
Ministry – Diocesan Parish Share	212,385	-	212,385	210,243
Other Ministry Costs	2,192	-	2,192	2,236
Building Running Costs	28,586	6,247	34,833	28,832
Major Repairs/Projects	-	-	-	-
Upkeep of Services	8,245	717	8,962	5,616
Adult Ministry	1,082	-	1,082	537
Youth & Children's Ministry	3,749	361	4,110	4,319
Kitchen, Hospitality & Catering	1,918	-	1,918	772
Staff Cost [note 4]	86,674	5,200	91,874	83,558
Training	1,518	-	1,518	1,930
Hardship Fund	52	-	52	200
Gifts	278	-	278	477
Bookstall	499	-	499	(20)
	347,178	12,525	359,703	338,700
3c) Church Management & Administration				
Telephone, Postage & Office Supplies	3,031	198	3,229	2,619
General Administration Costs	1,683	-	1,683	1,419
Computer & Software	3,183	-	3,183	2,112
Legal Fees	666	6	672	425
Independent Examiner's Fee	-	-	-	375
Depreciation	3,232	-	3,232	5,230
	11,795	204	11,999	12,180

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARK'S HARROGATE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds	
			2022 £	2021 £
4. STAFF COSTS				
Salary Costs (including Associate Minister)				
Stipend & Salaries	84,790	5,000	89,790	81,724
Social Security Costs	-	-	-	131
Pension Costs	1,884	200	2,084	1,703
	<u>86,674</u>	<u>5,200</u>	<u>91,874</u>	<u>83,558</u>
 Ministry Staff	 46,349	 5,200	 51,549	 50,835
Administration & Communications Staff	40,325	-	40,325	32,723
	<u>86,674</u>	<u>5,200</u>	<u>91,874</u>	<u>83,558</u>

The Associate Minister is part-funded by the Diocese.

5. INVESTMENT PROPERTY

	Freehold Land & Buildings £
Cost / Fair Value	
At 1 January 2022	330,000
Fair Value Adjustment	-
At 31 December 2022	<u>330,000</u>

Investment Property – 30 Halstead Road, Harrogate.

The property was professionally valued as at 31 December 2021. No revaluation deemed necessary due to the latest valuation was less than 24 months ago and the volatility of the current market. No depreciation is charged on the investment property so the above Fair Value also represents the Net Book Value. The original cost was £113,303.

	2022 £	2021 £
Income		
Rent Received	11,400	11,100
Property Expenses	(7,604)	(3,546)
Net income	<u>3,796</u>	<u>7,554</u>

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARK'S HARROGATE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

6. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Office Equipment £	AV Equipment £	Kitchen Equipment £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 January 2022	4,047	23,088	-	27,135
Additions in the year	-	-	3,764	3,764
At 31 December 2022	4,047	23,088	3,764	30,899
Depreciation				
At 1 January 2022	2,725	14,246	-	16,971
Charge in the year	725	2,507	-	3,232
At 31 December 2022	3,450	16,753	-	20,203
Net Book Value				
At 31 December 2022	597	6,335	3,764	10,696
At 31 December 2021	1,322	8,842	-	10,164

	2022 £	2021 £
7. DEBTORS		
Debtors	1,243	1,131
Prepaid Expenses	5,257	5,014
Accrued Income – including Gift Aid	-	24,437
	6,500	30,582

8. CASH AT BANK & IN HAND

CBF Church of England Deposit Account	60,213	59,432
Bank Current Accounts – CAF Bank Ltd	132,411	134,412
Cash in Hand & Floats	1,757	107
	194,381	193,951

9. LIABILITIES - AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

Creditors	9,002	6,125
Accrued Expenses	350	84,564
Other Liabilities	1,646	3,848
	10,998	94,537

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARK'S HARROGATE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

10. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

	Un- restricted £	Restricted £	Total £
Investment Property	-	330,000	330,000
Tangible Fixed Assets	10,696	-	10,696
Current Assets	155,509	45,372	200,881
Current Liabilities	(10,998)	-	(10,998)
Fund Balance at 31 December 2022	155,207	375,372	530,580

11. SUMMARY OF FUND MOVEMENTS

	Balance at 01/01/22 £	Incoming Resources/ (Resources Used) £	Balance at 31/12/22 £
<i>Restricted Funds</i>			
Organ Fund	1,614	-	1,614
Kitchen & Catering	6,559	-	6,559
Flowers	226	-	226
Other Restricted Grants	1,849	(78)	1,771
Harrogate Clothes Bank	7,754	-	7,754
2021 Gift Day	-	19,800	19,800
2018 Gift Day	7,648	-	7,648
	25,650	19,721	45,372
Fixed Assets - Investment Property	330,000	-	330,000
	355,651	19,721	375,372
<i>Unrestricted Funds</i>			
<u>Designated</u>			
Tangible Fixed Assets	10,164	532	10,696
Music & Choir	3,836	1,614	5,450
Discretionary Hardship Fund	1,151	-	1,151
	15,151	2,146	17,297
<u>Undesignated</u>			
General Reserve	12,710	38,552	51,262
Legacies	86,649	-	86,649
	99,359	38,552	137,911
	114,509	40,698	155,208
Total Funds	470,160	60,420	530,580

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARK'S HARROGATE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

12. GIFT DAY

The Gift Day in November 2021 raised funds to cover the 2021 deficit and the anticipated income shortfall in 2022 and allow recruitment of key staff positions to proceed. The portion of income not required to cover the 2021 deficit is treated as a release of deferred income in these accounts. Details of the amounts are below:

Amount recognised in 2021	6,742
Amount recognised as income in 2022	77,637
	<u>84,379</u>

13. AMOUNTS RECEIVED FOR DISTRIBUTION OUTSIDE THE CHURCH

	2022 £
Home	
Caring for Life	5,000
In2Out	5,000
WellSpring	5,000
Overseas	
Latin Links	5,000
Artizan International	5,000
Mission without Borders	5,000
	<u>30,000</u>

The above specific donations received for distribution outside the Church are shown for note only and are not included in income or expenditure. There are also a number of additional one off donations made by St Marks, though not deemed material enough for inclusion within this note.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARK'S HARROGATE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

14. VOLUNTEERS

The current work of the Church could not be sustained without the contribution made by many volunteers in all aspects of its ministry. Over 100 members of the congregation assist in various ways. Many activities rely almost entirely on volunteers, either behind the scenes in the running of the church or more visibly during Sunday services. Teams include those helping with: worship, cleaning, flowers, pastoral visiting, hospitality, prayer ministry, toddler groups, youth & children's ministry, sound and visuals, and building management & maintenance. In addition, volunteers are involved in governance through the PCC and Standing Committee. More information is given in the Annual Report.

15. LEASING

The Church has lease agreements in respect of hygiene equipment over five years commencing October 2020 at a cost of £29 per month and a photocopier supplied over five years commencing February 2018 at a rental cost of £67 per month.

16. TRUSTEE & STAFF REMUNERATION

Staff costs are detailed in note 4 and the number of staff employed at the year- end was 9 (2021:10). Most staff are employed on a part-time basis. No employee earned more than £60,000 in the year. This includes the Associate Minister.

Included in Salaries are the contributions to Leeds Diocesan Board of Finance in respect of the Associate Minister who is a member of the PCC. No other member of the PCC received remuneration from the PCC in the year.

In the year to 31 December 2022, members of the PCC had expenses reimbursed as follows:

	2022	2021
Total expenses paid to PCC members	£6,417	£3,106
The number of PCC members who received payments for expenses incurred	9	3

The nature of the expenses paid were normal clergy expenses such as phone, travel and other reimbursements and payments in respect of other costs properly incurred by PCC members in the performance of their duties.

There are no related party transactions that require disclosure.

The PCC operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are charged in the period to which they relate [note 4].

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARK'S HARROGATE

SIGNIFICANT INFORMATION

The charity's activities are covered in the Annual Report. The charity's governing document is the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure (1956) as amended and Church Representation Rules. The charitable objects are promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church.

The Trustees have regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission.

Charity Trustees:	See Annual Report
Charity Registered Number:	1134657
Address:	St Mark's Church, Leeds Road, Harrogate, HG2 8AY
Bankers	CAF Bank Ltd & CCLA
Independent Examiner:	D Kitson Bulmer & Co Chartered Certified Accountants 2 Mount Parade Harrogate HG1 1BX

Trustees' Responsibility for the Accounts

Charity law requires the Trustees of the association to prepare a receipts and payments account and a statement of assets and liabilities for each financial year. In addition the Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and to disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Association. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARK'S HARROGATE (CHARITY REG 1134657)

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE PCC OF ST MARK'S CHURCH
HARROGATE**

ON ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Respective Responsibilities of the PCC and Examiner

The PCC are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The PCC consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 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 Charities 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 PCC 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:

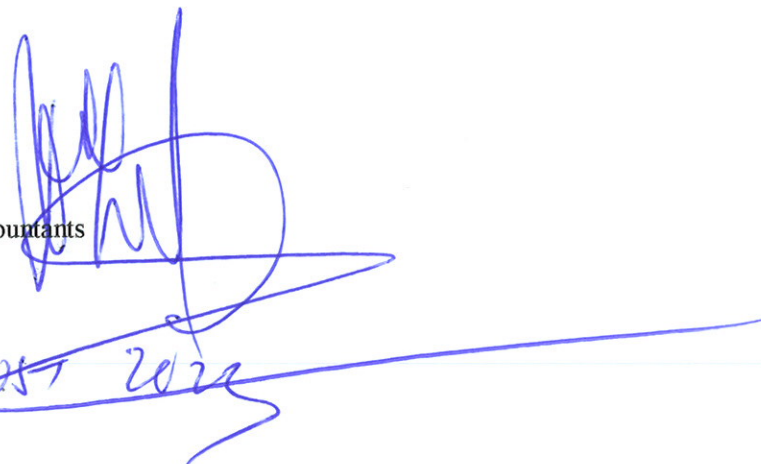
- To keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act

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.

D T Kitson FCCA
Bulmer & Co
Chartered Certified Accountants
2 Mount Parade
Harrogate
HG1 1BX

Date.....



7 August 2022