

ALL SAINTS, STRANTON CHURCH HARTLEPOOL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022



Rooted in God's love,
Growing together with Jesus,
Branching out in the power of the Spirit.

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Vicar's Report for Stranton Church 2022

It feels really unusual writing a report for the year, having only been here for 6 weeks of it, and a lot of the credit must go to the churchwardens for their help in pulling this together.

2022 was a year of change for Stranton Church. Over the course of the year, we have said goodbye to Norman and Julie Shave, following Norman's retirement after many years of service to our church and to the group, and more recently we said farewell to Michelle Delves, who in December moved onto her new role in Colne. At the time of writing, we now know we will also be saying farewell to Clive and Angela Hall, as Clive takes up his new role in Withernsea. We are hugely grateful for their faithful and devoted service to our church and our community.

Particular thanks go to: the ministry team (Mary Tones (Lay Reader), Revd Kevin Tones, and Revd Andrew Craig) who have supported us (alongside Michelle and Clive) through the vacancy and who continue to support us in our praise and worship of God; our music group, led by Ang (and soon to be led by Jordan); to our readers, intercessors, servers, assistant wardens, and tech team, who help to make our services what they are; to our PCC who have led us capably through the vacancy, with special thanks to Andrew Rogers as Lay Chair, and David Craig for his many years of service as our treasurer; to Trish in the church office, and Maureen our PCC Secretary and Assistant Treasurer; to our Youth and Children's teams (under the leadership of Kate and Clive); and to you, to all of you, for your support of the church and all who have helped lead and serve it through the vacancy. There are so many people who have been involved in so many different aspects of church life that without all of you, our church would not continue to survive or thrive.

With so many changes affecting much of what we have been doing together, we now have an opportunity to reflect on what God wants us to do next, on what our priorities need to be in the coming years. We need to look at our resources – our time, our talents, our gifts – and see where God wants to lead us. The next period will be a challenge, particularly for our ministry team, as we seek to serve the community across the whole Central Hartlepool Group. It's a challenge we look forward to, a challenge we embrace, because God has a plan for us and for our community.

And from me, specifically, thank you all for the way in which you have welcomed Rebecca, Sophie, Daniel and myself into the church family here. Thank you for your love and your care, your support and your prayers, for all you have done for us and for all you continue to do for the Kingdom.

Every Blessing,

Revd John

(With a lot of help from our Church Wardens, Angela and Rohan)

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

All Saints, Stranton Church is situated in Church Row, Hartlepool TS24 7QT. It is part of the Diocese of Durham within the Church of England. The correspondence address is Stranton Church Office, St Matthew's Community Centre, Arncliffe Gardens Entrance, Hartlepool TS26 9JF.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity excepted from registration with the Charity Commission

PCC members who have served from 1st January 2021 until the date this report was approved are:

<i>Vicar:</i>	The Rev'd Norman Shave	Chairperson <i>until 30th June 2022</i>
<i>Priest in Charge:</i>	The Rev'd John Bell	Chairperson <i>from 13th November 2022</i>
<i>Wardens:</i>	Mrs Angela Craig Mr Rohan Wanduragala	

Representatives on the Deanery Synod:

Mr Andrew Rogers
Mrs Sylvia Shepherd

Elected members:

Mrs Maureen Anderson	Secretary
Mr Paul Anderson	<i>from 24th April 2022</i>
Mr David Craig	Treasurer
Mrs Diane Greenwood	
Mr David House	
Miss Kate Lawson	<i>from 24th April 2022</i>
Mrs Cheryl Mills	
Mrs Jacqui Rogers	
Mrs Mary Tones	

Ex-officio members:

Rev'd Michelle Delves

Co-opted members:

Mr Clive Hall

The full PCC met seven times during the year with an average level of attendance of 83%. Committees met between meetings and minutes of their deliberations were received by the full PCC and discussed where necessary.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

ELECTORAL ROLL

There are 96 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll, parish. Six names were added and three names removed during the year.

Ken Shepherd

Electoral Roll Officer

FINANCE REPORT

In presenting the Financial Accounts for 2022, I am pleased to report that although we had expected mid-way through 2022 to incur a substantial deficit on the General Fund, of £9,000+, there was an improvement in costs and revenues in the final quarter of 2022 that reduced the out-turn deficit to a more manageable £6,673.

St Matthew's Community Centre, although it operates financially at "Arm's Length" and retains its own financial surplus to maintain its buildings and services is nevertheless part of our Charity and accountable to the PCC under charity law and regulation. It returned a surplus of £2,768 for the year, smaller than last year but showing promising signs of increased community use and importantly after absorbing the costs of a substantial upgrade to the Kitchens.

The Diocese has asked that we include directly in our annual statutory accounts the investments and reserves of the Endowment Trust Funds for Stranton church for which they act as "custodian". This change was perhaps overdue but necessitated a major revision affecting the basis for accounts which is described in detail in note 10. The results of this change are that we can now see easily the funds available to us and include as endowment income the interest generated by these funds in

our accounts and track the changes in investment values at each year end. The accounts for 2022 and the comparative figures for 2021 have been adjusted accordingly.

The challenges and financial highlights of the year included:

- The “Bells project” which started with planning and fundraising in 2021 has been largely completed in 2022 - a project excellently managed and supported by many of the Bellringers themselves, with leadership from our Church Architect, Churchwarden Rohan Wanduragala and Bellringer Andrew Frost. The bells are now fully operational and while the final stonework repairs have been slow and complicated, the end is in sight.
- Continuing to host the Hartlepool Communities of Hope Team Project, with a successful summer children’s activities programme at St Matthew’s CC and many other events held both regularly and occasionally across the Central Hartlepool Group of Parishes.

In both these continuing projects I have carried forward unspent resources as deferred income against future costs.

We have met our Parish “Share” commitment to the diocese and continue to support overseas and home mission.

On behalf of the PCC, and in thanks to God for the faithful spirit shown by our congregations, I acknowledge and celebrate the generosity of our members. As always I give thanks for your committed financial support, and add my encouragement to participate in the fullness of Christ’s Kingdom through prayer-led giving in line with scriptural principles. I am aware that people are differently affected by high cost of living increases and income restrictions with many making sacrificial giving a priority.

As always I record my particular thanks to key individuals who make essential contributions of their time and skills to the financial resourcing (in the widest sense) of the Church. Especially I thank Maureen Anderson, our assistant treasurer and PCC secretary, who has the considerable daily tasks of controlling our bank accounts and cash books; Ken Shepherd and the members of the Cash counting team; also Trish Playfor the Parish Administrator and others - not least the faithful regular members who commit to sustained giving for the maintenance of the ministry of our Church. I also thank our Independent Examiner Clive Rathbone for his diligence and for his gracious provision of time and expertise in reviewing these accounts to ensure objectively and independently that they meet necessary legal and professional standards.

David Craig

Hon Treasurer, April 2023

BUILDING AND FABRIC OF THE CHURCH

Thank you to everyone, who in whatever way, were able to help make the church a house of prayer and worship, a place of welcome and friendship. The duties you performed and continue to perform, whether large or small, noticed or unnoticed, acknowledged or not: the word of God read, the word preached, praises sung, music played the church cleaned, prayers said, people loved and prayed for and welcomed, the garden tended, refreshments provided and served and many more would not happen or wouldn’t be the same without you.

A big ‘Thank you’ from the Churchwardens,

We are so blessed to now have as our vicar John Bell and welcome him, his wife Rebecca and children Sophie and Daniel.

Goodbyes to Norman and Julie, Michelle, Rachel and Seth. And now we say good bye to Clive and Angela, with great gratitude for their years of loyal and loving service to Stranton and the Burbank Community.

Thanks to Peter Anderson and David House our assistant churchwardens for their help and guidance.

We give particular thanks to Clive, Angela and Michelle for making our time in vacancy pass relatively smoothly.

We have been encouraged by increasing cooperation particularly with St Luke's congregation and with joint services across the whole group. Looking forwards, with the reduced number of priests now serving in our group, all of the congregation needs to take their part in supporting Revd John and the running of Stranton Church. I encourage you to be involved and join in work parties, bereavement support, visiting other members working with the pastoral group, weekday house groups, or cleaning the church. Every little helps. We are urged in scripture not to stop meeting together to encourage one another. Hebrews 10: 25.

It is good to see succession for music worship leading and more involvement with children and families, and the support given to this by Hayley Liversidge of the "Communities of Hope team."

1. **Buildings:**

Quinquennial Inspection

The report was received in July 2022. It Identified 2 key tasks: repairs to the Church tower stonework and re-covering of Tower roof. We need to work towards completing these in the next 5 years. The first of these will require considerable resources and effort. We have now started to address this, having commissioned and received a report by the church architect. A significant fund raising effort will be required by us to enable this work to be undertaken. In doing this we will honour the legacy of past generations for maintaining this place of worship and witness. Also we in turn will be doing our part to ensure the ongoing work of the church.

Routine Inspections/service:

- Heating: Annual boiler service took place in October 2022. Leak repair in pipe in Fulthorpe Chapel has been completed after a few attempts and the steps re-instated.
- Fire: Inspection of the fire extinguishers completed March 2022.
- ADT Alarm: routine inspection completed. A recommendation to upgrade the keypad and control unit is being actively pursued with quotations received for this work.
- Lightening protection system: inspected and tested in July 2022.
- Tower clock: The clock was stopped for the bell refurbishment project. We hope to have it serviced and re-started next month (May 2023).
- An inspection of articles belonging to the church (terrier) was satisfactorily completed April 2023
- Other minor maintenance tasks are carried out as required and recorded in the Church Log Book

Church yard and flower borders: Our thanks to the Council for maintaining the church grounds and rose beds and checking on safety of gravestones as well as removing the dead Cherry tree. Thanks to Pam Stockton for doing the flower beds which look lovely

Parking: Thanks to Camerons for their help and assistance with operating the car park and ensuring parking spaces are available, particularly at busy times when they permit the use of their parking areas

2. **Church Bell refurbishment:** The end is in sight! The replacement of the West window will mark the completion of a wonderful, rewarding and a mammoth task. We are immensely grateful to Andrew Frost for masterminding this project and to Maureen Anderson for undertaking the considerable amount of administrative tasks associated with this project and to David Craig for managing the finances. A special thank you to the volunteers who helped with the work. Also this project has brought to light the significance of the bell in the lives of many who have associated with Stanton in the past.

3. **Vicar appointment:** Our thanks to all who were involved in the process, reps from all 3 churches and particularly the invaluable help and assistance we received from the Diocese; Sheila Bamber, Janet Burbury (Area Dean), Rick Simpson (Archdeacon) and Bishop Sarah.

*Rohan Wanduragala, Angela Craig
Churchwardens*

HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT

Health and Safety Audit of the church was carried out by Angela Craig and Peter Anderson in April 2023.

The following matters are noted from that inspection

- Lighting to the rear path to church should be improved as the brewery lighting has not been repaired and is reduced.
- The carpet in church has been cleaned by Mark Sanders - a big thank you and the joints continue to be monitored. The replacement is on hold for the moment due to other pressing needs for our church funds.
- The Fulthorpe Chapel kitchen vinyl has been repaired
- The temporary steps in the Fulthorpe Chapel have been replaced but need finishing cosmetic touches.
- The five yearly Electrical Installation Condition check is due in October 2023.
- Access to the tower roof requires improvement
- The dead cherry tree has been removed and the approach path up the steps to church has been repaired. The nosings will be repainted shortly.
- We have not yet restarted a sidesperson rota and this is to be done as soon as possible. Please do volunteer if you are able to be at one of the services half an hour before it begins to welcome and guide people and assist with leading people to take Holy Communion.

No new hazards were found.

Angela Craig, Peter Anderson

DEANERY SYNOD REPORT

We met twice during the year.

In **February** we met at Holy Trinity, West View.

Items discussed included:-

An update on Communities of Hope

Deanery Planning, as Fr Graeme had left St Oswald's, the Deanery Plan kicked in with Fr Richard taking on responsibilities. It was Rev Norman's last Deanery Synod as he will retire in June. The Central Group had completed the Parish Prioritising Process and the Group Profile had been approved by the Archdeacon and a job advert would follow.

Safeguarding

DBS term has been reduced from 5 years to 3. PCC members may require both Basic and Foundation level safeguarding training. There are new Lone Working guidelines.

Living in Love and Faith

Details of the resources available for parishes was distributed

Queen's Jubilee

Hart and Elwick had planted 130 free saplings from the Woodland Trust.

Tall Ships, July 2023

It was hoped to be able to maintain a Christian presence at the event and an organising subcommittee was established to explore this.

In **November** we met at St Oswald's.

The main agenda item was an illustrated talk by Rev Paul Child from Cuthbert House regarding generous giving and the parish share. The feeling was that we don't tend to discuss "Giving" regularly, or look at the theological background. We should give generously because:-

We're created in the image of a generous God

Generous giving deepens our relationship with Christ

We own the vision of our Diocese

We need to keep the Church growing.

There are many ways of generous giving, e.g. cash, contactless, on line, QR, Parish Giving Scheme and legacies. Easyfunding was also mentioned.

Updates were given on Communities of Hope, Safeguarding, the Tall Ships, school visits, decarbonisation, Hart had received its Gold ECO award and Rev John Bell was welcomed.

Andrew Rogers

SAFEGUARDING - CHILD AND VULNERABLE ADULT PROTECTION

This year we have focussed on ensuring our DBS checks are up to date for existing volunteers. An administrative error with the diocese meant that some people's DBS checks had lapsed, however these are now in the process of being followed up.

We have fully embedded last year's changes to 'safer recruiting' with volunteers and staff, thanks to the work of Rev. Clive Hall.

All our policies are up to date and in line with diocesan expectations, with the exception of Digital Safeguarding. Revd. John Bell is using his past experience in this area to ensure we're compliant as soon as possible.

Although our staff and volunteers occasionally come into contact with safeguarding concerns, there have been no incidents involving our groups or workers this year.

Clive, who took the lead on the day-to-day safeguarding procedures, has now handed these over to myself and John.

Peter Hart

Safeguarding Officer

GATHERED WORSHIP IN STRANTON PARISH

There is a regular pattern of worship services across the parish, both weekly and monthly. The services are held in Church and St Matthew's Hall. Each service has its own characteristics. We hope and pray that there is something for those who have been part of a worshipping community for a long time and those attending for the first time. The pattern is summarised as follows –

Stranton Church

Sundays

9:00	Holy Communion	A quiet said service using traditional liturgy
11:00	Morning Worship	Each Sunday has a different characteristic.
	Holy Communion	Generally the services are relaxed and welcoming including a mix of contemporary music and hymns.
	Lighthouse Service	1 st and 3 rd Sundays include communion
	(provision for all ages)	4 th Sunday, Lighthouse is a good service to try if you are new to church, it includes welcomes for families wanting baptism.

St Matthew's Community Centre

4:00 second Sunday only	Messy Church	A service for families based around craft, story and sharing tea together
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Wednesdays

10:00	Holy Communion	A said midweek communion in a more accessible venue.
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WORSHIP TEAM

After Julie's retirement I took over the rota for sung worship.

Huge thanks to Viv Neville who led worship through the Christmas period. Huge thanks to the worship team Robyn Farrow, Ann Courtney, Sophie Bell, Pam Harkness and Mary Tones.

The rota is sent to a Whats app group each month so everyone knows who is singing. I then send the songs weekly. I have been keeping a record of what we have been singing for copyright reasons.

It's been a privilege to lead and serve in this way.

Since Jordan and his family have come back to church he has been covering worship so I could have a couple of Sundays off. Huge thanks to Jordan for stepping in and being willing to continue to lead worship.

A little reminder why we worship,

Worship reminds us that He is God and we are not!

1 Peter 2:9

'That you may declare the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light.'

Angela Hall

COMMUNITY WORKER

Chaplain of Ward Jackson School

I have taken lessons and been interviewed a few times this year. I was asked by a pupil if I would attend the Ward Jacksons got Talent event, which I did and I got the pupil who asked me to be my assistant for a magic trick.

We have hosted the school in church a few times but we did have a special 'I sing Pop' event. A Christian organisation taught the children songs and dances for three days and then put a concert on in church it was very well attend by parents.

I also took a baptism service for one of the teachers which was a privilege to do.

I have been making myself available for parents in the playground each week.

I was invited for the first time to go and speak at Rossmere Primary school and I helped with their Harvest Festival assembly.

Overseer for Youth, Children and Family work

There is a process to go through when you want to become a volunteer in church. There is always a DBS check made and there is compulsory training on safeguarding. We also have a Safer Recruitment policy; this make the process a bit longer but it also means we are making sure all our children and Youth are kept safe.

I have been attending the Coffee and Cake drop in at St Aidan's church for a while now. It is good to see how the development of trust with the people has grown and good conversations and prayer are a natural part of the morning.

YF

I will be the fourth leader to leave YF within the last year. So I would like to say they are still looking for leaders to come along and help them. Please talk to Peter Hart or Rachel West. YF has 6 youths coming along aged from 11- 17.

YF went to The Pulse event recently and saw John Archer a Christian Magician. Along with the good worship and Prayer stations, we all enjoyed the evening.

Home group

We meet every other week and it has been good to welcome back someone who had left for a little while. We have a social time together and a spiritual thought for the day.

Alpha Home group

After the Alpha course finished last year we carried on meeting as a home group. We sing and have some basic teaching about Christian life and also just have fellowship together. We have met for a few meals and also all had a trip to Holy Island.

Priest Role

A lot of changes within this last year. Rachel and Anita finished their training and Norman and Julie retired. Then the arrival of Rev John. This has meant it has been a busy time for everyone across all the churches.

This year I have taken 4 weddings, 14 Baptisms and 12 funerals. The Baptism of the Farrow family in the sea was a highlight.

Angela and I also led some of the Wedding Preparation Day, we enjoyed working together as a team and felt there will be more of this in the near future. Thanks for all who helped in making the day a success.

Personal News

Two years ago I was signed off as priest, but I wanted to get a job which was just one church and as a friend of ours said "you need a church that doesn't just need a priest but needs a Clive and Angela" I do believe I have found that church. So I will be moving shortly and my Licensing service is on 22nd May at St Matthews in Withernsea.

We have been in Hartlepool nearly 20 Years. I have seen many changes in all that time, and had many experiences which have all helped to make me the person I am today.

We did a while ago teach about Ubuntu a South African saying that means 'I am who I am because of you'. You supported and helped and encouraged me and my family through all that time. We are very grateful for your friendship and for being our Christian family. May God continue to bless you, and all that you do.

Reverend Clive Hall

STRANTON TODDLER GROUP

I took over the running of Toddlers in June 2022. It continues to be popular and thrive attracting between 27-35 children plus their accompanying adults each session. The large variety of activities on offer continue pretty much as they did before.

Both halls are used with a large amount of play equipment and more messy activities in the smaller room. At about 10am everyone comes together for a snack and squash/tea/coffee. Following tidy up time the sessions finish with singing nursery songs. It is busy but there is a lovely atmosphere and it is great to see the youngsters smiling, laughing and having fun.

As always, it is heavily dependent upon the help of volunteers to be able to run it. My sincere thanks to all those who help and put in such hard work to ensure it runs smoothly. It is very much appreciated.

Currently we could do with at least two more volunteers. One to help on a rota basis with the snack in the kitchen and another to help set up first thing in the morning. Setting up in the morning would particularly be when a volunteer is away so can't help. If you are interested please let me know.

I have enjoyed getting to know all the mums, dads, grandparents and child minders that come and look forward to seeing how it develops.

Thank you for your time and prayerful support.

*Hayley Liversidge
Communities of Hope*

MESSY CHURCH

Messy Church has taken place on the second Sunday of the month at 4p.m. in St Matthew's Hall 9 times in the last year plus Messy Easter on Good Friday morning. We also had a Christingle service in church on the second Sunday of December at 4p.m. for Messy Church and schools. We have a Stranton Messy Church Face Book page. We usually have 22-32 children age 1-13 and 18-20 adults (including helpers) in attendance. They are a mixture of families who attend Stranton church, regular Messy Church families and families preparing for Baptisms of children.

We were sad to say Goodbye to Julie and Norman last May. I now plan and lead Messy Church with the help of Hayley from Communities of Hope. Last Autumn we enjoyed learning about Creation, Adam and Eve and Noah's Ark, this year we've told the stories of Jesus healing ten lepers and Zacchaeus, with the help of Paul Anderson who sets up the projector for the Beginners' Bible illustrations and song. We praise God with the help of Jordan Thornhill on guitar or Kevin Tones and have an interactive prayer. Then there are 5-6 crafts and activities set up related to the Bible story and some of our older young people have been helping the younger children decorate heart shaped biscuits, make painted hand print pictures, make Thank you and Easter cards, paint pebbles etc. Finally we all share a very tasty tea provided by Maureen and Peter Anderson and have a chat over sandwiches, sausage rolls and cake.

Future hopes: to run a Christian enquirers group to include adults from Messy Church and to have Baptisms at Messy Church.

BIG THANKS to the small but dedicated Messy Church Team who work so hard to make it all happen. More helpers are always welcome, just have a word with me or Hayley.

Mary Tones

SUNDAY CLUB

At Christmas the Sunday Club took part in a Nativity, which was a great success, with the children reading and acting the Christmas story. Following this, all of the children received a selection box.

At Easter, there was an Easter egg hunt and all the children received an Easter egg.

There is a regular core of children attending, but numbers vary from week to week, ranging from 3 – 16 children. The age range is 5 – 14.

Thank you to all of our leaders and helpers including Mary, Gill, Helen and Pam for volunteering this year. New helpers, who are much needed, will soon be joining us.

Kate Lawson Sunday Club Leader

YF (Youth Fellowship)

Lots of changes to leaders this year. Rachel Price was helping and of course moved on. Beth and Shannon Strain both junior leaders also left us. Then at Christmas Michaela left also. We are very grateful for all their hard work and support.

This left Peter Hart and myself. We were delighted when Rachel West joined us and Mark Sanders is in the process of becoming a leader. We do still need another female leader to keep a good balance. Do please consider being a YF Leader and talk to either Peter or Rachel.

We have enjoyed trips to The Pulse which is a Durham Diocese Youth Meetings at Durham Cathedral. Our latest trip was to see John Archer a magician.

We have been using the Rock Solid material which combines talking points with games around the themes such as - Cry Freedom. Based on freedom of speech- Is anyone Hungry, based on food. Who do you think I am? Which was about who Jesus is to you.

We had a good film night especially when Paul Anderson was able to project it onto the big screen in church. We are due another one?

There are times we are struggling to have two leaders at YF and a special thanks need to be said to Mary Tones, Paul and Peter Anderson for being our back up leaders even at short notice.

I did attend a clergy training day and it was mentioned there that there is only a handful of churches which have youth groups in the Durham Diocese. Stranton Church is one of them. Do keep praying for this to continue.

Revd Clive Hall YF Leadership Team

	Stranton Brownies & Guides	
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2022, a year that was still in the shadow of Covid, girls missing meetings as they were testing positive but slowly during the year a move towards a more normal meeting experience.

The girls have two activities they love doing, eating and crafts. Many of the programme activities will incorporate these!

We had a number of Celebrations during the year, some being regular activities – World Thinking Day, where we think of the Girlguiding members around the world and special ones when a girl achieves the highest award in their section. In the Spring term, Elly gained her GOLD AWARD, where we celebrated with cake. Well done Elly.

The crafts, programme and badges have had the themes running through them of recycling materials, helping the bees, reducing waste, the results have been amazing.

During the year we take opportunities to join in Hartlepool Guiding events, so went to Thinking Day on the Air, where the girls have the opportunity to talk to other guides and scouts around the world and the Campfire evening of singing and eating!

We had our first Funday, as the Community Centre outside in the car park. We combined campcraft skills, outdoor cooking, completing the Platinum Jubilee Challenge and the tea party for the Celebration. A busy but great day, the weather was also kind, so the five hours was spent outside.


During the summer months we try to do outdoor activities. This year we did rock pools at the headland -learning about the plants and animals that live and survive in them when the tide goes out. Incredible insects challenge badge, going up to the family wood, more outdoor cooking and sandcastles at Seaton followed by chips.

In the Autumn term, two new Leaders joined, Hannah (parent of a Brownie) and Iona as a Young Leader, moving into Leadership from Guides. They have both settled in and are a big asset to the Brownies. We also held an open evening for Brownies, from which we gained five Brownies and two Guides. The Remembrance Day activities allowed the girls to share what they knew and discuss the stories we gave them along with the crafts. Christmas activities and Crafts were also popular and well done by the girls.

If there is anyone that would be interested in becoming a helper and/or Leader please contact me.

Cheryl Mills

(Leader with Brownies & Guides)

	The Great News – Rainbows is back at St Matthew’s Community Centre. Open Night Monday 15 th May 5.30 – 6.30pm Rainbows 4 – 7yrs, a parent must attend
	Open Night Monday 15 th May 6.00 – 7.15pm at St Matthew’s Community Centre Brownies 7 – 10yrs, a parent must attend.



4th Hartlepool Boys Brigade
Founded 1930
HQ - St. Matthews Community Centre
Find us on Facebook



This year we have put displays in church for harvest and Easter and taken part in the Harvest Festival, Parade Sunday and held our own Christmas Carol Service in Church (Which was well attended on a Friday Night)

The Anchor and Junior Boys took part in Easter Eggheads and some Company Lads assisted as helpers

All sections will be working towards a Coronation Badge to be given out at our Open Night

Anchor Boys we are averaging 12 Boys and they enjoy crafts and games.

The junior numbers are disappointing, we average under 10 Boys and are trying to recruit in this age group

Company - we have average 15 plus which is very encouraging and we have 14 going to our Camp at Fanwood Scout Centre

Leaders - we have not lost any leaders this session which allows for all to build up experiences although if anyone would like to do simple cooking with the Anchors and Juniors you would be most welcome

Funding we are holding our Summer Fayre on June 17th and are hopeful of receiving grants towards the cost of Camp activities

We look forward to growing in 2023 and beyond and where possible to mix into church based activities

George Bainbridge, Leader in Charge, 4th Hartlepool Boys Brigade

PASTORAL GROUP

We are currently a team of 5 – Ian Walker, Rohan Wanduragala, Diana Wanduragala (associate member) and myself, with Cheryl Mills as a recent and very welcome addition to our numbers. We maintain contact and provide support by means of telephone calls, visits, providing home communion, going for walks and meeting up for coffee. We have continued the tradition of delivering Christmas and Easter cards and small gifts of chocolate to those who can no longer manage to get to church, as well as delivering flowers on Mothering Sunday. Some also receive the weekly notice sheet, Signpost and bible notes, delivered by a wider church team.

This support, in its many forms, is an important way of maintaining relationships and connections within our church. We feel it is also important to note that a lot of informal pastoral care is provided by both members of the congregation and the leadership team to give both ongoing and ad hoc help to those who need it.

Revd Michelle led the team until she left Stranton in December and continued the opening up of the church building on Saturday mornings during the summer months as a means of pastoral outreach. This practice has been suspended over the winter.

We continue to have regular meetings to review and plan our commitments and, with Revd John's support, we are currently exploring, as a joint venture with members of St Luke's congregation, the setting up of a bereavement support group for those who have been recently bereaved.

There are cards at the back of church which can be used (for themselves or others) by anyone wanting to request to be contacted by a member of the pastoral team.

Pam Stockton

MOTHERS' UNION REPORT

This past year has been a year of waiting to see what the weather is like before ringing members up to tell them we are going ahead or not to come out. There is another snag as we meet on a second Monday and this year we have extra Bank Holidays due to various other happenings.

We still have 14+ members who regularly attend our meetings and those who support us at home with prayers. We do miss having Julie Shave to keep us in key with her guitar but we do make a go of carols and hymns.

Please do pop into St Matthew's Hall for a chat and you will be very welcome.

God Bless

Ann Courtenay

Branch Leader

BELLRINGING REPORT

The last report stated how Andy Kaye was suffering from bad health and Joseph Wilson had taken over as Stranton Tower Captain. Sadly, Andy passed away peacefully on 19th September 2022. His illness had become progressively worse until he had to be admitted to Alice House Hospice where he spent his last few weeks. Andy had been a bell ringer for many years and had taken part in peals lasting more than 12 hours as well as visiting and being a member of a host of towers. His funeral was at Stranton Crematorium and a number of ringers attended. Stranton's bells were out of

commission so St Aidan's tower was opened up for his family and others to ring in his memory after his cremation.

Progress on the refurbishment of Stranton's bells progressed slowly early in the year. As reported in 2022, the Church Buildings Council was against the old bell No 6 dated 1599 (now found to have been cast c1520) and listed for conservation from being retuned. They finally submitted their arguments to the diocesan chancellor and the PCC appealed against their conclusions with a well-argued statement that as the bell had been tuned in 1907, it would be right to tune it again to keep it in the circle of bells. The Chancellor decided in favour of Stranton's PCC and the bells were removed to Taylor's of Loughborough in July. Ahead of that Mason & Forster (Stonemasons) of Sunderland had to remove the belfry west window so that the bells could be taken out of the tower. A second bat survey had been carried out prior to the work commencing and the survey concluded that the belfry was bat free and was not conducive to them roosting in it.

In September the bell frame was de-rusted, painted with antirust paint, primer and an enamel top coat applied. During this work it was discovered that some remedial work needed doing to one of the spars and a new spar was fitted. Also in September the bell ringers visited Taylor's and were told that the No 4 bell could not be tuned properly as the metal in the shoulder was too thin and any necessary tuning at that point could crack the bell. A D&N Association member, Jim Crowther, came forward and offered to pay for a replacement on the proviso that it be dedicated to Andy Kaye and his family. This left a question over what to do with the old bell and after discussion within the PCC, it was decided to retain the old bell for striking as a "Service Bell". Taylor's quickly produced a design for how the bell should hang in the belfry, a case for an amendment to the original approved faculty was submitted to the Diocesan Advisory Committee and, within 4 days, the Chancellor approved the amendment.

Work to return the bells started in November and they were hung in time to be rung for Christmas. Reinstatement of the belfry window has been delayed by bad weather but it is anticipated that the work will complete in mid-April 2023.

Hartlepool's bellringers have continued ringing and developing their art. Elspeth Craig has run Tuesday afternoon sessions for whoever is available to improve their ringing and to progress. These sessions have been most useful and well attended. The standard of ringing in Hartlepool has not been as high as it is in many years. Six of the ringers entered the D&N Striking Competition in 2022 and came first out of 8 teams.

The bell ringers want to thank Stranton Church, Revd Bell and the church officers for agreeing to hold a Service of Rededication for the bells on 25th February 2023. With the Bishop of Durham taking part and The Lord Lieutenant of Durham being present, the day went very well with the church being full and everybody saying how wonderful it was. Bell ringing in Hartlepool goes from strength to strength. Bells at all three churches will be rung on the occasion of King Charles III coronation on 6th May 2023 as they were for the death and funeral of Queen Elizabeth II.

Andrew Frost and Joseph Wilson Tower Captain

ST MATTHEW'S COMMUNITY CENTRE ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT

Despite the effects of lock down and some reduction of income last year, St Matthew's started the year in a fairly positive financial situation. However, the first couple of months revealed this was going to be a tough year, as, like others, we would be facing large increases in our energy costs in particular, as well as potential loss of users as a knock on effect. To a large extent this governed our strategy and tactics for 2022. The rental rates for hall users had not changed for many years and after research of alternative venue rates and much discussion the committee agreed to increase these rates by 15% from September. Our centre still offers some of the most competitive rates in Hartlepool. The committee understood this increase in itself would not be sufficient to sustain our position and that we needed the increase the value of our offer to customers by upgrading some facilities, as well as attention to the maintenance of this old building. We have also increased

awareness through ads in Signpost and other voluntary organisations as well as increased use of social media. We also intend to improve Wi-Fi reception and speed through the addition of boosters to new areas of the building.

One area where there is an opportunity for growth is rental for children's parties and other special occasions and events. This year we have undertaken a programme of refurbishment and improvement to the small and large hall kitchens, to enable both halls to be independently rented with full cooking and storage facilities. This work was financed by existing funds and completed in September. This has not only improved facilities for existing users, but we have also recently noted and increase in party bookings. However, in September we also received news that a long standing hall user, Diddikicks, would be leaving us and the contract with Communities of Hope would not be renewed. These decisions have a significant impact on our income stream. Throughout the autumn we have managed to fill some of these gaps and will continue to search for and attract new users.

A constant source of attention at St Matthew's is the maintenance the building requires. In order to understand the problems and allow us to plan and prioritise the work required, in September we commissioned a surveyor's report on the entire site. In December we received the report, and this has allowed us to formulate a plan of action for undertaking the works required. This will be a 2 phase project, the first part of which will focus on the small hall. The upgrades are relatively minor and can be self-funded and we hope this work will take place during the summer of 2023. The work on the rest of the building is much more substantial and will require grant applications for funding and are projected to take place during the second half of 2024. Members of the committee are busy working towards both stages of the project.

Throughout the year we have strengthened our bonds with Stranton Church and the Resident's Association through working together on a number of projects and this cooperation will continue throughout the coming year. For example, during the year we have held monthly Coffee and Cake afternoons which have proved extremely popular and in the autumn and wintertime have held weekly Warm Space soup lunches. We have also hosted the usual Christmas and summer fairs as well as a couple of splendid Diamond Jubilee Parties where over 200 people enjoyed the celebrations.

All in all, a mixed year for St Matthew's with many challenges to come. Nevertheless we believe we are in a strong position to move forward, well informed and ready to meet these challenges.

Carol Laud

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish
of**

All Saints, Stranton

Charity Registration Number 1134753

Accounts for the year to 31 December 2022

Independent Examiner's Certificate for Stranton PCC Accounts: Charity Number: 1134753

I report to the trustees of: All Saints Stranton Parochial Church Council on accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022

Respective responsibilities of trustees and 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 Charities 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

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.

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 following requirements have not been met:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act;
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with
- the accounting requirements of the Charities Act;
- to account for statutory fees correctly.

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

Signed: Clive Rathbone

Date: 6 May 2023

21 Wolviston Road Hartlepool TS25 5AP: Methodist Circuit Treasurer (Retired)

All Saints Stranton Parochial Church Council

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2022

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	TOTAL 2022	FUNDS 2021
Incoming resources	Note:					
Incoming resources from donors	2a	73,666	6,074	-	79,740	111,960
Other voluntary incoming resources	2b	13,046	127,809	-	140,855	123,845
Income from charitable and ancillary trading	2c	17,303	-	-	17,303	12,317
Other ordinary incoming resources	2d	-	-	-	-	422.00
Income from investments	2e, 10	266	-	8,975	9,242	3,631
Total incoming resources		104,281	133,883	8,975	247,140	252,174
Resources Expended						
Grants to Home and overseas mission and other charities	3a	7,729	-	-	7,729	8,884
Activities Directly relating to the work of the Church	3b	68,975	133,883	-	202,858	211,677
Fund Raising and Publicity	3c	1,765.32	-	-	1,765.32	-
Church Management and Administration	3d	29,593	-	-	29,593	26,431
Total resources Expended		108,062	133,883	-	241,945	246,992
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources: Community Centre	2,768					
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources: Church see note 10	-6,549	-3,781	-	8,975	5,195	5,182
Other Net Gains/losses: including prior period adjustment see note	10	-	-	-16,146	-16,146	17,387
Net movement in funds		-3,781	-	-7,171	-10,952	22,569
Balances Brought Forward at 1 January 2022 as previously stated		119,839	95,236	9,360	224,435	222,620
Balances 1 January 2022 revision per prior period adjustment note	10			174,990	174,990	159,235
Reclassification of p/y Windrim drawdown	10			-5,000	-5,000	-5,000
Balances restated and Carried Forward at 31 December 2022		116,058	95,236	172,179	383,473	399,425

All Saints Stranton Parochial Church Council

Statement of Financial Position at 31 December 2022

		2022	2021
	Note:		
Fixed Assets			
Tangible fixed Assets	5a	184,177	193,143
Investment Assets	5b, 10	162,819	174,990
		<u>346,996</u>	<u>368,133</u>
Current Assets			
Debtors and prepaid expenses	7	72,148	26,747
Short Term Deposits		414	410
Cash at Bank and in Hand		43,769	105,777
		<u>116,332</u>	<u>132,934</u>
Liabilities: Amounts falling due within one year	8	-79,855	-50,363
Deferred grant and donation revenue (bells project)	8	-	-51,280
Net Current (Liabilities)/ Assets		<u>36,477</u>	<u>31,291</u>
Net Assets		<u>383,473</u>	<u>399,425</u>
Funds:	6, 9, 10		
Unrestricted reserves (see below)	9	116,059	119,839
Restricted reserves (Buildings and Organ fund)	9	95,235	95,235
Endowment reserves	10	172,179	184,350
Total Reserves		<u>383,473</u>	<u>399,425</u>

Approved by resolution of the Parochial Church Council, dated 19th April 2023

Rev'd. John G Bell (Chairman)

Mr David Craig (Hon. Treasurer)

All Saints Stranton Parochial Church Council Year to 31 December 2022

Note 1 - Accounting policies

1a) Basis of Preparation

These Accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets. They have been prepared to meet the requirements of the Church Accounting Regulations 2011 together with applicable Accounting Standards, the Charities Acts 2011 and 2016 and Statements of Recommended Practice. They have been prepared on an accruals basis to match income and related expenditure relating to the year under review. The statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible. Financial statements for various Church related activities or groups for which the PCC is not responsible are not included. Subsidiary Financial statements for the activities of the St Matthews Community Centre which are consolidated in these Accounts are available separately. The Accounts include the Endowment Trust Funds held and administered for the benefit of the PCC by the Diocese of Durham, as custodian Trustees.

1b) Fixed Assets

Fixed Assets are stated at cost: freehold land and buildings are not depreciated as in the view of the PCC the effect of depreciation of these assets would not be material to an appreciation of the PCC's financial position. Office and computer equipment furniture and fixtures are depreciated using a straight line method over a period (generally 4-5 years) estimated to reflect the useful economic life of the Assets.

1c) Investments

Investments are revalued annually and carried at the lower of realisable and current market value, the difference between cost and carrying value is recorded in a revaluation reserve where the value is greater than original cost: a provision is made for each investment asset for which the market value is less than its original cost. Reserves and provisions are not netted off. Endowment investments are revalued to lower of market or realisable value annually by the custodian trustees and any difference adjusted against endowment reserve.

1d) Stocks

Inventory (where material) is stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value and written off as expenditure when issued.

1e) Debtors

Amounts receivable are stated at the value prudently expected to be realised. Full or partial provision is made for bad or doubtful debts as soon as they become apparent.

1f) Liabilities, Provisions, deferred income and capital grants

Full estimates are made of income and capital grants received in advance and of outstanding liabilities incurred in the course of the PCC's Activities, and provision made in compliance with current relevant Financial Reporting Standards and recommended charity practice.

1g) Pensions

Paid Staff employed by the PCC (i.e. who are not stipendiary clergy licensed by the Diocese of Durham) who are eligible for Workplace pension are offered membership of the Defined Contribution Scheme operated for the PCC by Peoples Pension (formerly B&CE), this scheme complies with the national legal membership requirements and contribution rates for workplace pensions.

1h) Employment.

In 2023 The PCC employed two full time (one church and one project) and five part time (two church and three project) staff. The church policy is to review pay annually by benchmarking and to ensure that as a minimum the rate of National Living Wage is maintained.

All Saints Stranton Parochial Church Council

Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 December 2022

	2022 Total	2022 Unrestricted	2022 Restricted	2023 Endowment see note 10	2021 Total
Operating activities					
Operating surplus / (deficit)	5,195	-3,781	-	8,975	5,182
add items not involving movement of funds: Depreciation	8,967	8,967	-	-	9,068
Increase/(Decrease) in Creditors	29,492	6,978	22,514	-	15,407
(Increase)/Decrease in Debtors	-45,401	-3,176	-42,225	-	7,086
Cash utilised in (2021 - generated from) operations	-1,748	8,988	-19,711	8,975	36,743
Investing activities					
Cash generated from sale of assets	-	-	-	-	-
Cash invested in assets	-	-	-	-	-
Other investments made	-	-	-	-	-
Grants & donations (released from) / transferred to deferred income	-51,280	-	-51,280	-	51,280
Cash (utilised) in investing activities - (Audiovisual System 2021)	-	-	-	-	-16,528
total cash movements from Operating and Investing activities	-53,028	8,988	-70,991	8,975	71,495
Represented by:					
Church Current account decrease (2021 - Increase) in balances	-65,820	5,046	-70,991	-	63,971
Community Centre Current Account increase in balance	3,851	3,851	-	-	4,079
Deposit account increase in balance	4	4	-	-	4
Decrease (2021- increase) in cash balances (Community Centre)	-38	-38	-	-	73
Increase in endowment cash balances (Custodian balances)	8,975	-	-	8,975	3,368
Net Movement in liquid balances	-53,028	8,863	-70,991	8,975	71,495

All Saints Stranton Parochial Church Council

Notes to the Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022

Heading	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	TOTAL 2022	FUNDS 2021
2 Incoming resources					
<i>2a Incoming resources from donors</i>					
Planned Giving					
Gift Aided	41,799	-	-	41,799	47,730
Income Tax recoverable on Gift Aid inc donations	10,450	-	-	10,450	11,932
other income tax recoverable	-	-	-	-	-
other Voluntary giving	17,400	-	-	17,400	8,323
Other collections	4,017	-	-	4,017	3,440
Gift Day	-	-	-	-	-
Bell restoration appeal - donations (deferred income see note 3b)	-	-	-	-	35,880
Communities of Hope - Other income	-	6,074	-	6,074	4,655
	73,666	6,074	-	79,740	111,960
<i>2b Other voluntary incoming resources</i>					
Grants - not including Capital Grants	6,058	-	-	6,058	10,229
Bell restoration appeal - 2022 Deferred Grants and donations (see note 3b)	-	-	-	-	15,400
Bell restoration appeal - 2023 Grants	-	35,060	-	35,060	-
Communities of Hope - External Grants	-	5,205	-	5,205	7,000
Communities of Hope - SDF funding via Diocese	-	67,879	-	67,879	68,755
Appeals etc	496	-	-	496	412
Legacies and Donations,	2,823	19,665	-	22,488	18,379
Income tax recoverable on Gift Aided Donations	3,669	-	-	3,669	3,669
Fundraising	-	-	-	-	-
	13,046	127,809	-	140,855	123,845
<i>2c Income from Charitable and ancillary Trading</i>					
Magazines and book sales	-	-	-	-	10
Lettings (Halls etc) contribution	10,939	-	-	10,939	7,404
Fees	6,279	-	-	6,279	4,833
Sundry income:	85	-	-	85	70
	17,303	-	-	17,303	12,317
<i>2d Other ordinary incoming resources</i>					
Contribution to secretarial costs	-	-	-	-	-
Insurance claims	-	-	-	-	422
	-	-	-	-	422
<i>2e Income from investments</i>					
Dividends, interest and bonuses including adjustment (note 10)	266	-	8,975	9,242	3,631
Total Incoming Resources:	104,281	133,883	8,975	247,140	252,174

All Saints Stranton Parochial Church Council

Notes to the Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022

3. Resources Expended

3a Grants made

Missionary and Charitable Giving

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	TOTAL 2022	FUNDS 2021
Overseas mission	3,000	-	-	3,000	4,500
Relief & development agencies	-	-	-	-	342
Home missions and other Church Societies	4,729	-	-	4,729	4,042
	7,729	-	-	7,729	8,884

3b Activities directly related to the work of the Church

Ministry:

Parish Share	35,250	-	-	35,250	34,033
Communities of Hope Hartlepool Staff costs	-	62,464	-	62,464	54,570
Communities of Hope other operating costs and deferred income	-	16,694	-	16,694	18,047
Staff expenses, including MEV allowances	2,125	-	-	2,125	5,690
Property costs - staff accommodation	402	-	-	402	343
Church running expenses, excl hall recharge	13,189	-	-	13,189	11,480
Church repairs and maintenance	2,683	-	-	2,683	9,705
Recruitment and training costs	34	-	-	34	156
Ministry costs excluding Pay cost - Burbank, Youth and families Wo	3,786	-	-	3,786	3,821
Magazine - costs included in Stationery	-	-	-	-	-
Professional fees, surveys etc - (2021 included in capital expenditur	1,500	-	-	1,500	-
Parish lay worker remuneration	10,006	12,500	-	22,506	22,551
Cost of parish events	-	-	-	-	-
Deferred Income to 2022 Bells restoration (see note 2b)	-	-	-	-	51,280
Current and accrued Expenditure - Bells restoration	-	42,225	-	42,225	-
	68,975	133,883	-	202,858	211,677

3c Fundraising and publicity

costs associated with generating funds

3c Fundraising and publicity

	1,765	-	-	1,765	-
	1,765	-	-	1,765	-

3d Church management and administration

Administrator remuneration incl pension contribution, and expense:

Stationery and printing	16,193	-	-	16,193	13,445
Hall overhead	1,551	-	-	1,551	1,169
Depreciation equipment & computers	2,465	-	-	2,465	2,313
Bank Charges	8,967	-	-	8,967	9,068
Legal and professional fees / costs	418	-	-	418	435
	-	-	-	-	-
	29,593	-	-	29,593	26,431

Total Resources Expended:

	108,062	133,883	-	241,945	246,992
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All Saints Stranton Parochial Church Council

Notes to the Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022

4. Staff costs

Clergy stipends are paid by the Diocese: all other remuneration shown under note 3b and 3d was paid to the Parish lay worker, parish administrator and from October 2020 to the staff working on behalf of the Central Hartlepool Group of Parishes in the Communities of Hope Hartlepool - a project fund by the Diocese of Durham, and include social security costs and pension contributions made under a defined benefit scheme operated by Peoples Pens

5. Fixed Assets

5a Tangible fixed Assets

		Freehold Land And Buildings	Equipment, fixtures and computers	TOTAL
Gross book value	At 1 January 2022	178,551	48,866	227,417
	Revaluations	-	-	-
	Disposals	-	-	-
	Additions: audiovisual	-	-	-
	Capital Grants applied	-	-	-
	At 31 December 2022	178,551	48,866	227,417
Depreciation	At 1 January 2022		34,273	34,273
	Disposals		-	-
	Charge for the year/impairment		8,967	8,967
	At 31 December 2022		43,240	43,240
Net Book Value	At 31 December 2022	178,551	5,626	184,177
	At 31 December 2021	178,551	14,593	193,143

Freehold land and buildings comprise St Matthew's Community Hall, and staff house accommodation at 10 Clarkson Court:

Other Tangible Fixed assets are amortised over periods estimated to reflect their economic lives from the date of acquisition, generally 4 to 5 years. Assets scrapped/sold are disposals

The Church building is not included in the statement of financial position as it has no historic cost record. Church buildings are insured for reinstatement costs

The Audio Equipment installed in church in 2020 has been subject to accelerated depreciation over 2 years in view of the potential for obsolescence and likely realisable value

5b Investments:

The PCC does not directly hold any investments but receives income from certain designated trust funds held by Durham Diocese as custodian. As the PCC is the ultimate beneficiary of these funds they have been included in these accounts for the first time in 2022: a prior year adjustment has been made (see note 10) for an analysis of these funds and their realised and unrealised changes in valuation.

6 Analysis of net assets by fund

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
Fixed Assets	98,493	85,683	-	184,177	193,143
Endowment investment funds	-	-	162,819	162,819	174,990
Current Assets	56,728	50,244	9,360	116,332	132,934
Deferred Grants and donations revenue see notes 2b and 3b				-	-51,280
Current Liabilities	-39,163	-40,692	-	-79,855	-50,363
	116,059	95,235	172,179	383,473	399,425

7 Debtors:

	2022	2021
Tax Recoverable	20,876	17,750
other debtors/receivables	51,272	8,997
	72,148	26,747

8. Liabilities - amounts falling due within one year:

	2022	2021
Accruals and deferred income	41,250	40,134
Creditors for goods and services	27,091	155
Other Provision: mission support	8,000	8,000
Deferred grant and donations - restricted income: (bells project)	-	51,280
Other creditors: Tax and NIC	3,514	2,074
	79,855	101,643

9 :Funds

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total 2022	2021
Unrestricted and Restricted Capital (Buildings) reserves	42,292	85,683		127,975	127,975
Prior period Adjustment = restatement of Custodian funds	Note 10		162,819	162,819	174,990
Unrestricted - St Matthew's Hall Management Committee	63,115			63,115	60,347
Unrestricted - General Fund:	10,652			10,652	17,201
Restricted: Organ Fund £7,552 and Restoration Bequest £2,000		9,552		9,552	9,552
Locally managed endowment funds			9,360	9,360	9,360
	116,059	95,235	172,179	383,473	399,425

Locally managed endowment funds consist of a number of specific legacies, the income from which may be used for the general purposes of the PCC: Other Endowment funds are "custodian" funds invested by the Diocese of Durham on behalf of the parish as shown in note 10

All Saints Stranton Parochial Church Council
Notes to the Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022

Note 10 Investment assets (and Prior period adjustment in the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022)

The prior period adjustment represents the consolidation in the PCC Accounts of endowment funds held in trust on the PCC's behalf: by the Diocese of Durham. These funds are ultimately under the control of the PCC for church purposes, subject to endowment and other restrictions in each Trust deed. This adjustment brings the PCC accounts in line with current best practice on the disclosure of Funds.

The effects of this Prior period adjustment on previously stated reserves and income is shown in the statement of Financial Activity (page 2) Previously the income of these Trust funds has only been reflected in the PCC accounts to the extent it has been drawn down in cash. This adjustment adds income and investment gains (less losses) of these Trust funds in to the PCC Accounts as shown below, the opening balances of reserves have been restated, and the income for both 2022 and 2021 financial years has been adjusted accordingly.

The funds are invested in low risk investment funds and interest bearing deposits in accordance with Diocesan investment policies

	Valuation	2021 financial year		Valuation	2022 financial year		Valuation	Notes
	1/1/21	income	investment gain/loss	31/12/21	income	investment gain/loss	31/12/22	
Tithe Act	5,684		817	6,502		-762	5,739	interest remitted annually
Brunswick St	7,291		0	7,291		0	7,291	
Interest	442	4		446	102		548	
Windrim	114,031		16,396	130,428		-15,285	115,142	see note 10.1
Interest	30,259	3,329		28,588	8,832		32,420	£5,000 drawn in 2021
Church	1,206		173	1,380		-99	1,281	
Interest	321	35		356	41		397	
Investment reserve	<u>159,235</u>			<u>174,990</u>			<u>162,819</u>	
Interest realised		<u>3,368</u>			<u>8,975</u>			
Investment Gain/(Loss)			<u>17,387</u>			<u>-16,146</u>		

10.1 The Windrim Trust income only is to be used for the maintenance and improvement of the Fabric of the Church

Note 11 Related party transactions

The charity did not enter into any financial transactions, remuneration arrangements or contracts involving trustees or related parties in the financial year to 31 December 2022 or in the financial year to 31 December 2021

All Saints Stranton Parochial Church Council
Restricted funds 2022

Communities of Hope	Lay Worker	Bells appeal	Total
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Grants & Donations

Sir John Priestman Charity 2022 deferred			8000.00	8000.00
C Cookson Trust 2022 deferred			4000.00	4000.00
All Churches Trust 2022 deferred			3400.00	3400.00
Donations (individual) 2022 deferred			35880.00	35880.00
subtotal - income deferred from 2021 financial year			51280.00	51280.00
Diocese of Durham			4000.00	4000.00
Listed places of Worship VAT Grant			14060.17	14060.17
Northumbria Historic Churches Trust			5000.00	5000.00
Durham and Northumbria Bellringers			10000.00	10000.00
CCBR			2000.00	2000.00
SDF funds via Diocese of Durham	67879.03			67879.03
Other sources of Income	5906.13			5906.13
Anonymous Grant	3500.00			3500.00
Grants <£1000	1705.00			1705.00
Donations 2022 deferred	168.00	10000.00		10168.00
Donations 2023			7165.00	7165.00
Associated Gift Aid		2500.00		2500.00
Total Project income (Bells) to date	79158.16	12500.00	93505.17	185163.33
less: recognised in prior year(s) itemised above			-51280.00	-51280.00

total restricted income 2022

79158.16	12500.00	42225.17	133883.33
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Project expenditure

Capital Grant St Matthews CC				
Internal Rent St Matthews CC	5762.40			5762.40
other Operating costs and future commitments	10931.38			10931.38
Suppliers and contractors - Repairs and refurbishments			69263.29	69263.29
less costs accrued in previous period			-51280.00	-51280.00
Salaries costs	62464.38	12500.00		74964.38
Accrued costs and contracted liabilities			24241.88	24241.88
Total Restricted Expenditure	79158.16	12500.00	42225.17	133883.33

Independent Examiner's Certificate for Stranton PCC Accounts: Charity Number: 1134753

I report to the trustees of: All Saints Stranton Parochial Church Council on accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022

Respective responsibilities of trustees and 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 Charities 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

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.

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 following requirements have not been met:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act;
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with
- the accounting requirements of the Charities Act;
- to account for statutory fees correctly.

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

Signed: Clive Rathbone

Date: 6 May 2023

21 Wolviston Road Hartlepool TS25 5AP: Methodist Circuit Treasurer (Retired)