

St Mary's Newick

Living God's Kingdom



*The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;
the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus;
it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing.
Isaiah 35:1-2*

Praying – Serving – Growing – Together
22nd May 2022
11:30 a.m.

Vestry Meeting & APCM

Annual Meeting of Parishioners
(Vestry Meeting)

Election of Churchwardens
Election of Deputy Wardens

Annual Reports

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

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Parochial Church Council of St. Mary's, Newick.

PCC Report 2021 for APCM 2022

The Parochial Church Council (PCC)

The PCC, working closely with the Rector, is responsible for the overall wellbeing, practical as well as spiritual, of the Church, the church members and church buildings. The PCC also has a duty to promote the mission of the Church within the wider community. Church Members are encouraged to stand for election to the PCC providing a balance of skills and experience.

The PCC is registered with the Charity Commission (No 1138070) under the Charities Act 2011. Its governing document is the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956. Membership is determined under the new Church Representation Rules 2020. Membership consists of the Rector, ex-officio members, Churchwardens, Lay Readers, Members of Deanery Synod and up to twelve members of the Church who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church meeting (APCM) or later co-opted during the year.

Ex-Officio Members

Rev. Paul Mundy	Rector
Mel Balloch	Churchwarden
Sara Fuller	Churchwarden
Jeremy Burdett	Lay Reader and Member of Deanery Synod
Geoffrey Clinton	Lay Reader
Patsy Bailey	Associate Lay Reader and Member of Deanery Synod
Kate Francis	Member of Deanery Synod

Elected Members

Christopher Hume	Vice Chair and Treasurer
Susan Balloch	PCC Secretary
Caroline Smith	Safeguarding Officer
Tony Bailey	Sexton
Isobel Baty	
Linda Farmer	
Audrey Ford	
Anthony Mallinson	
Jo Wood	
Alan Young	

In May 2021 membership of the PCC stood at seventeen. Alan Young stepped down from his position as Churchwarden at the APCM to study to become a Lay Reader but was then co-opted onto the PCC in July 2021. Sara Fuller stepped up to become Churchwarden in his place. Isobel Baty also resigned in May due to pressure of work. In the October of 2021 the PCC was greatly saddened at the death of Jo Wood, leaving membership of the PCC at fifteen. We would like to note our appreciation for the years of tireless work put into the PCC by Jo, both as a Churchwarden and a key member of the Pastoral Care Group. She is greatly missed.

Six PCC meetings were conducted in 2021 (January, March, May, July, September, November). These were held via zoom until September 2021 when relaxation of Covid restrictions made it possible to resume on a face-to-face basis. Agenda topics, for which one or two PCC members took the lead, along with members of the congregation, included: the mission action plan, safeguarding, prayer,

finance, health and safety, pastoral care, fabric, churchyard, outward giving, barn centre, free distribution of the parish magazine and the Christmas tree festival. Work on these was supported by several small groups and committees as listed below. The lead on each of these is in bold:

Standing Committee:	Revd. Paul Mundy, Mel Balloch, Tony Bailey, Jeremy Burdett, Geoff Clinton, Sara Fuller, Christopher Hume , Alan Young
Finance:	Christopher Hume , Robin Parris, Ruth Connellan, Mel Balloch, Ian Reekie
Fabric:	Anthony Bailey , Mel Balloch, Sara Fuller
Pastoral Care:	Patsy Bailey , Isobel Baty, Pat Beeston, Jebby Dyson, Ron & June Perou, Ian Reekie, Marion Young
Outward Giving:	Jeremy Burdett , Revd. Paul Mundy, Ron & June Perou, Ian Reekie, Sue Balloch
Youth:	Revd. Paul Mundy , Ali Brown, Lee Buck, Patsy Bailey, Isobel Baty, Rebecca Hume
Barn Centre:	Anthony Bailey , Patsy Bailey, Sue Balloch, Linda Farmer, Rosemary Walters, Revd. Paul Mundy
Churchyard:	Christopher Hume ; Alan Young; Anthony Bailey
Christmas Tree Festival:	Sara Fuller ; Jenny Smerdon
Parish Magazine:	Revd. Paul Mundy , Mel Balloch, Sue Balloch, Alex Harrison, Christopher Hume, Alan Morgan, Jackie Potter, Monica & Peter Todd

Aims and purposes as a charity

- Promoting the gospel of Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England
- Promoting the whole mission of the church – pastoral, social, evangelical and ecumenical
- Knowing Jesus better and making Him better known
- Practical support and care for people in the parish, from the youngest to the eldest, irrespective of level of need or ability to pay
- Providing financial support to those in need and to other organisations with similar objectives

To meet our charitable objectives we have continued to follow our Mission Action Plan (MAP), setting out and expanding our guiding principles. We also take into account the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. Key elements of the MAP include:

- Worship of God and the proclamation of His Gospel
- Listening to God in prayer
- Linking to the wider community
- Support and education in the Christian faith, especially for the young
- Maintaining Church property

Sue Balloch

How we did we affect people's lives in 2021

Worship and the Gospel

2021 continued to be a challenging year as the country entered a third Lockdown on the 6th January 2021 until 29th March and battled a new variant of Covid 19 with the government rolling out its vaccination programme. Churches were not formally closed this time around as we were informed that *"You can leave home to attend or visit a place of worship for communal worship, a funeral or event related to a death, a burial ground or remembrance garden, or to attend a wedding ceremony"*

Numbers continued to be restricted and, until the vaccination programme was advanced, we maintained a pattern of worship of online and smaller services in person.

The average attendance at services on a normal Sunday at St Mary's averaged 18 at the 8:00 a.m. plus online attendance and 64 at the 10:00 a.m. plus online attendance.

During the year in the parish there were the following:
Baptisms 5, Weddings 4, and Funerals 17.

Other Services

Worship2 growing in numbers and gratefully received by all who attend.

Our Remembrance Service took place on the Green and in Church.

Our Thanksgiving and Memorial Service was well attended

Blue Christmas Service

Ministry

Rev. Paul Mundy continued his appointment as Rector and Incumbent of the Benefice of Newick and in the January of 2021 took up a 5 year role as Priest in Charge of St Peter's Chailey.

Giving

The pandemic has left us with many financial challenges and uncertainties; however, I am pleased to say that St Mary's appears to be weathering the storm. This is solely down to your incredible generosity through God's abundant provision, thank you all, and to the good governance and wise stewardship of Ruth Connellan, Robin Parris, Mel Balloch and Christopher Hume.

Our aims and purposes as a charity

- Promoting the gospel of Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England
- Promoting the whole mission of the church – pastoral, social, evangelistic and ecumenical
- Knowing Jesus better and making Him better known
- Practical support and care for people in the parish, from the youngest to the eldest, irrespective of level of need or ability to pay
- Providing financial support to those in need and to other organisations with similar objectives.

What we planned to do to achieve our charitable objectives:

We have continued to follow our Mission Action Plan (MAP), which sets out our guiding principles.

We also take account of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. Key elements of the MAP include:

- Our worship of God and the proclamation of His Gospel
- Our listening to God in prayer
- Links in the wider community
- Support and education in the Christian faith, especially for the young
- Maintaining the property and fabric of our worship spaces



Rectory Report for the 2021 APCM

It has been a year of highs and lows, slowly trying to get back to normal with the incredible roll out of the vaccine programmes and yet still the deep sadness of losing loved ones, often suddenly and unexpectedly. We are thinking especially this year of our beloved Jo Wood who had served St Mary's so faithfully in joy, love and always full of prayer. Our love and our prayers go out to all who lost loved ones in 2021, and it really brings home the importance of the role in which our parish church plays out in the life and loss of our community.



We began January with a second porch licensing, this time at St Peter's Chailey as I took on the role of Priest- in- Charge of Chailey for a period of 5 years. I am thankful for the support of Churchwarden's and PCC's of both parishes for their co-operation in working alongside each other and for the sheer joy of collaborating together. I would like to offer special thanks to God for guiding Fr Martin Morgan to us and for his friendship and for his ministry to both Chailey and Newick.

2021 was not without its challenges as we dipped in and out of lockdowns and restrictions and we know that many of us found this season tougher than the previous year's challenges. However, being Newick, we rose to the occasion and we enjoyed much chaos and laughter as our pancake making with NYC was taken online, seeing multiple kitchens across the parish turned into flour disaster zones; our Ash and Palm Crosses delivered in plastic pouches; our Mothering Sunday restrictions meant that flowers were left outside the church for collection and all disappeared in a matter of hours.

From March, Weddings and Blessings began again, initially still with numbered restrictions, but it didn't make the days any less special and in certain circumstances I think the couples found the experience to be far more personal.

Just before Easter we delivered over a 100 chocolate Easter eggs to the schoolteachers and support staff who had been working tirelessly for so long to keep our schools open and teaching in bubbles and online schooling. Easter started with a cold Sunrise service with lots of flames from our firepit. We then warmed around the fire and were heartened with wobbly coffee and hot cross buns as we welcomed our Lord.

During April we gave thanks for the life and service of the Duke of Edinburgh, with the church open for private devotion and a Nation witnessing again the servant heart of our Queen in the midst of her loss.

ROMANS 12: 1

'Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God – this is your true and proper worship.'



April also produced the first ever 'all parish' edition of the Newick Parish News. It was recognised as an important mission tool for St Mary's and we are hugely grateful to Jackie, Alex, Mel, Sue Christopher and all the Parish News delivery team for their perseverance, vision and guidance in enabling this wonderful publication to reach the very heart of every household in the community.

May meant I was out of action for a while following a spell in hospital having my vocal cords sorted out and I am hugely grateful to all who stepped in and stepped up. Also for those wise souls who 'advised' me not to return too quickly I believe this was so that I could get well and had nothing to do with my preaching!



June was a busy month as an early summer storm created a complicated situation with a tree down in the churchyard causing damage to several graves but again thanks to Christopher and Tony for their swift response in getting things sorted out. On the 3rd June Alan Young received an invitation to attend an interview at Church House on the 3rd July for a Reader Selection Conference, which was wonderful news, but as part of the process Alan would be unable to hold the post of Churchwarden and Reader in training at the same time! This meant that our original Churchwarden Succession plans had to

be revised. Thankfully, Sara Fuller, courageously stepped into the role, with Mel Balloch offering to guide Sara over the coming year. It was therefore a joy to see the licensing of our Churchwarden's at All Saints Crowborough with Sara commencing her first years and Mel remaining with us for 'One More Year'.

I am also happy to report that Alan was told on the 13th July that he had successfully passed his Reader Selection Conference as '*a very strong candidate*' and that he would be off to St Augustine's Theological College in September.

It was wonderful to have our school leavers services back in church in July and leavers' bibles were handed out to every young person leaving school in Newick and Chailey. This meant the compulsory attendance of 'the Rev' at the

sports day Colour Run in the afternoon!

July was also a time for sun, fun and coming together in love and hospitality and as you can see after the previous two years a powerful reminder of just how precious these moments together are.



August Holiday club was shared with Chailey and Barcombe and over 40 children attending. The sun shone, much fun was had and we learnt a lot about sheep.

It's been a fantastic year for our children's families and Youth Work and I'd like to thank our congregation and PCC for enabling our Youth work through your generosity and to Ali and Lee for their energy, gifts, vision and perseverance.

Going into 2022, prayer is needed for more volunteers to step forward to support our families and Children's ministry.

One of the great joys of the year has been to open our doors again to live music with concerts from – Vivace – Coro Nuovo – New Sussex Singers and Intergenerational Opera receiving great acclaim. It was so

wonderful to have our church filled with song and music.

September was a great month for Vocation, with Reader in training Alan Young and vocation discerning Mandy Stockwell beginning their studies with St Augustine's Theological College. In addition to this, Patsy Bailey continued her vocational training as an ALM for the parish and diocese by commencing the ALM Mission & Ministry Course. September saw the first Worship2 service inspired

by Josh Stockwell and led by Mandy Stockwell, a Fresh Expression Service created around Psalms and worship music. This has been gratefully and well received by those attending, with numbers increasing month on month. In September we ran our first Alpha Course for over two years at St Peter's Chailey, and up to twelve of us met together in hospitality to think about how and why we can have a faith, with some fantastic conversations and friendships made.

October was a busy month with Harvest festival for Church and Schools, a fabulous churchyard working party, a celebrity dinner at Bevern view, Bonfire celebrations in the village and our Thanksgiving service at St Mary's for those who had died before and during the pandemic. Special

thanks goes out to Patsy and all the pastoral team for their continued love and care.

Sometimes it really is a dog's life : in November Loki joined the family at the Rectory and loves coming to Church, especially when Juliet has a pocket full of shortbread.

We also welcomed Henry as he was co-opted onto the PCC.

Remembrance Day was extremely well supported both at our Church Service and on the Green and thank you to NEASSA for their support and hospitality. NEASSA also launched the Newick Remembrance Trail, connecting the history of the young men remembered on our memorial at St Mary's with the homes they

lived in around our village, this was

a huge success and it was wonderful to talk to so many people who came into St Mary's as part of the trail.

During 2021 we started to format our new Mission Action Plan and

huge thanks need to go to Sara Fuller for her structuring of the Deanery Audit and MAP into a working



organic vision plan which is both realistic and achievable. Our Map is following the diocesan vision strategy of the Four Mores and we look forward to expanding this with the church and the community in 2022.

The Four Mores are:

MORE OPEN: A SIGN OF BEING ONE, **MORE CONVERTED TO JESUS CHRIST:** A SIGN OF BEING HOLY, **MORE GENEROUS:** A SIGN OF BEING CATHOLIC, **MORE ENGAGED:** A SIGN OF BEING APOSTOLIC.

In late November we welcomed Bishop Ruth as St Mary's hosted the Deanery Confirmation Service and as one of the congregation mentioned

*"Wow she is amazing!
Bishop Ruth really is a thoroughly modern Bishop, isn't she?"*

We closed the year with a fantastic Christmas Tree festival & Christmas Fair. Huge thanks to Sara Fuller, Jenny Smerdon and their teams for creating and organising this joint fundraiser for St Mary's & St Peter & St James Hospice. Despite fears of another lockdown, many from the village and surrounding area visited the Church to support this start of Christmastide.

This was followed with our first Blue

Christmas Service, written and led by Fr Martin Morgan; this was a powerful time of reflection and acceptance for those struggling with loss at the approaching Christmas season.

This led us wonderfully and respectfully into our Christmas Celebrations. Our Advent & Christmas

Appeal towards the costs of caring for our Pastoral Teams again showed just how generous our community can be, and on Christmas Day this year it was Joseph's turn to lead the way.

Once again, thank you to the angels who brought Joseph to life, as we thought about what it means to be the one behind the scenes, whose steadfastness enables others to enact God's calling upon their lives.

Reflecting on the year it has been interesting to see how a community can come together time and time again, in love, support,

generosity, and with great compassion and empathy,

The message from 2021 must be "take care of you, so that you can take care of others" and this is a biblical narrative in thinking about how often Jesus took time out, to pray, to rest, to be alone and spend time in hospitality with friends and family.



Looking back at last year, we finished with the prayer of Ignatius of Loyola *Teach me good Lord, to serve You as You deserve, to give and not to count the cost. . .* This year we will finish with a slightly different version which I hope will give us the space to make time for God, to hear God's calling on our lives and to equip us with the strength and resilience to realise God's vision for St Mary's in the adventures ahead:

Teach us, good Lord, to serve you as you deserve.

To give, and yet be mindful of the cost

To fight, yet not ignore the wounds

To toil, yet have the self-compassion to seek rest

To labour and to know that in doing your will we need self-awareness

And to build resilience that we may serve you faithfully.

Electoral Roll Report

The current roll stands at 142. Of this number 123 live within the parish boundary and 19 live outside it.

Since last year's report, 8 names have been added and we extend our welcome to those people.

Sadly, three people have been removed as they are no longer with us. We give thanks for the lives of Geoffrey Harrison, John Hart and Josephine Wood.

Two other people have been removed but now regularly worship at St. Peter's Chailey so haven't actually left our wider church family.

The list of names on our Electoral Roll will be displayed in the porch for 2 weeks as required by the Diocese of Chichester. This list will include names only, no other data will be displayed.

Mandy Stockwell - Electoral Roll Officer

Children's Ministry

Although the first half of 2021 continued to be a very challenging year for the Children and Families Ministry due to the backdrop of the Pandemic, from March onwards face to face contact with children and families meant that gradually activities could resume, albeit with masks and much sanitizer and there was a gradual creep towards resuming 'normality'. To start 2021, lockdown began exactly one day after the children had gone back to school after the Christmas holidays on 4th January and schools did

not reopen until March 8th. During this time, I continued my Ministry online with Virtual New Year Club, moving to Zooms with the children in February. I continued to make videos for six Primary schools to show in classrooms, reaching over 600 children and continued to

communicate with families via email, WhatsApp and Zoom. This was perhaps the most difficult period of the Pandemic as online fatigue had set in and children were desperate to be back together again. The Church Mouse articles in the Newick Parish magazine and regular updates of the Porch noticeboard provided

a welcome distraction from the ennui of online. We were all praying for an end to the uncertainty and for the vaccination program to be successful and those prayers were certainly answered!



Towards the end of March, assemblies resumed in Fletching and Newick Primary schools, with children being 'bubbled' into classes and there were strict regulations to be followed in terms of following the Covid guidelines. This involved careful planning of what could and couldn't be done and transferred to the Sunday Clubs. Risk assessments were rigorously checked, adapted and Children's Clubs had to initially all take place outside until the end of April. This kicked off with a Good Friday outside activities morning at Barcombe and then Outside Easter Owls in Newick. The Sunday Clubs then took a regular rhythm of meeting with signups and separation from the rest of the congregation. I visited Newick Preschool a few times to interact with the little people there and Barcombe Bunnies baby and toddler group resumed cautiously in St Francis in April.



Holiday Club 2021 was planned and, in spite of ongoing Covid concerns, Mossy Church took place at a very sunny Barcombe Church in the last week of August with 60 children attending and 24 volunteers taking part over the three days from the communities of Barcombe, Chailey and Newick.

In September, Primary schools reopened with more of an air of normality, although Covid regulations were still in place but whole school assemblies were able to take place and I was also allowed to meet with mixed groups at lunchtime; the Faith Council in Newick, Worship Welcomers in Chailey and Y Club in

Barcombe. I also switched from Fletching Church to Chailey St Peter's at this time and began considering a different style of outreach with this Church community (now Free@4!)

In October, we held our first Light Party at Newick Church on Sunday October 31st, attended by 25 children, which was great fun. At Christmas, Owls had a Christingle-making session, which was really lovely and Barcombe ran its outside Nativity Trail for the second year, at which I served hot chocolate to over 100 people.



2021 proved to be yet another uncertain year with different people catching Covid at various points and the schools even went back to 'bubbles' again as Covid picked up in the winter months. 2023 has certainly been much less stressful, as mask-wearing has been reduced and there are far less regulations to follow!

So what next? Here are 3 prayer considerations for 2023 and beyond:

1. That volunteers from the Church family will be encouraged to step forward to help with Owls Club as we consider how children going into Year 7 can continue their Christian faith journey at Newick Church. We particularly need a male volunteer.
2. That we as a Church family will consider how children can be even more supported with their Christian faith journey and worshiping on non-Owls Sundays.
3. That we as a Church family consider ways of supporting parents and carers in their Christian faith, perhaps via an evening Zoom.

Ali Brown

Newick Youth Club

NYC has continued to run throughout the lockdowns online, so it was really good that 2021 meant we could now meet in person. We have had a very successful year. We have been able to regrow our youth club in September. We currently have 40 year 7's regularly attending weekly. We keep getting new young people join via friends spreading the word at school. We had an amazing 'Beat the Parents' Quiz night where we were able to advertise May Camp for 2022 with over a dozen young people showing interest in attending. We have enjoyed time together and the continuous growth of the club.

We also launched our older youth group from those that remain from the original NYC in 2020. NCT (Newick & Chailey together) was designed for year 9+. Although with our current numbers at NYC and the possibility of 40 more year 7's in September 2022 we may make NCT year 8+. This would mean we are engaging with 70 – 80 young people each week via youth group

We have planned activities for the spring term 2022 of wide range of games, welcome evenings, BBQ's, water fights and more. The young people love being outdoors and having this opportunity to be active. This allows them to be seen by the public and show how vibrant our youth club is.

We have also discussed with them about anti-social behaviour. After the Defib was stolen from the village hall. We wanted to make it clear this was their village as well and they should have respect for it as much as anyone else.

We had visits from our PCSO who later awarded us with a £500 cheque from the Police Community Support Fund for a new air hockey table and we have also trained 35 young people in CPR and Defib training.

This year has given us loads of opportunities with growth. I can't help but feel God is moving over our youth work here. We hope to get a DofE group started and hopefully reach out to Chailey secondary school in 2022

Lee Buck

Pastoral Care

St. Mary's has a dedicated and compassionate team who, through their care directed at vulnerable members of our community have brought to life the practical application of the teaching and example of Jesus. They have provided support within Covid restrictions throughout the year and as the restrictions were lifted, began visits and supporting activities, these included; lunch club, the exercise classes and Tea at Three, hospital and nursing home visits and bereavement support. These activities make a huge difference to people's mental health, meeting other people, getting out from their own four walls and most importantly knowing that the people of St. Mary's really do care about them. The team illustrated the Christian message that every person is important to God whoever they are. They touched the lives of eighty elderly people in one way or another plus more who attended the activities and who were supported when bereaved which brings it to well over one hundred people. The team met monthly and members were able to contact their team leader if worried about situations or needed to share experiences.

The pressures on adult social care and the NHS have impacted on the team as patients sometimes were discharged without sufficient support and unreasonable expectations of what voluntary support is available locally. Consequently liaising with adult social care has been necessary and continues in

support of those needing assessment for adaptations such as hand rails to make daily living safer and prevent falling.

Home communion was offered - gratefully received and all team members were happy to offer prayer time for those who wanted to share this.

At Easter and Christmas, every effort was made to ensure no one felt forgotten.

Solo Friends social events have made a huge difference to many peoples quality of life over the past year as has the Good Neighbour Scheme providing transport to hospital or the health centre,

The pastoral team works closely with both.

Food provision has been possible via the Uckfield food bank and at times the family support larder.

We have also been helpful in referring those in need to Newick Trust.

TLC monthly tea parties were not restarted as restrictions lifted but 'Tea at Three' replaced it which has enabled more people to attend.

This was one of the busiest and at times most stressful years, the team coped with the changes imposed by Covid and managed to provide valuable support to those in need in our parish.

Patsy Bailey

Men's Suppers

Our Men's Suppers fell victim to Covid in 2020 and most of 2021, but we managed to resume in November 2021. Peter Estcourt, for many years a much-loved and admired GP in Newick, was our speaker. He gave a fascinating account of his life, work and travels.

The evening was well attended, our ladies looked after us very well (Many thanks, you really are wonderful!) and a good time was had by all.

We were glad to welcome a table largely comprising fathers of children who attend our Church Owls club.

We have a full 4-supper program in place for 2022.

Christopher Hume

Sexton's Report

This year has been very active with both routine and specific maintenance tasks being undertaken.

A schedule is kept which specifies approximate dates and intervals for specified maintenance work. In addition many other tasks are identified often at short notice and are generally dealt with quite quickly apart from major works requiring PCC approval. The works carried out this year include -

- Weekly fire alarm tests in the barn centre, fire alarm servicing and fire extinguisher servicing in both church and barn centre carried out by qualified professionals.
- PAT testing of appliances in both buildings carried out annually by a qualified electrician.
- Five yearly fixed wiring inspections completed by a qualified electrician.
- Major tower project completed in September which involved repairs to west tower window stonework and door header. Derusting and repainting ferramenta and cleaning of stained glass and minor repairs. Work was approved by both PCC and diocese and was scheduled for a block of time when the church was less used. Other minor tower works were carried out at the same time. Qualified, skilled professionals employed for all critical works.
- Professional cleaning of all three modern etched glass windows at the western end of the building.
- New mild steel door keys were sought as replacements for poor quality cast iron keys which kept breaking, there was also a greater demand for keys by certain users.

- All external doors had their iron strap work repainted and three doors were treated with an oil finish to prevent degradation of the Victorian oak caused by the elements.
- Downpipes and drains have been regularly cleared with a persistent problem being caused by birds nesting in the hoppers. Minor repairs to the main roof tiles and improvements to downpipes have been carried out.
- There have been a number of sinkages of churchyard paths, notably in the lower churchyard between a run of cremation tablets. The path has been partially relaid to improve matters, no significant issue with underlying drainage have been identified.
- The eastern churchyard wall is in a very degraded state and liable to collapse. This was identified in the previous quinquennial review and is now being slowly addressed with repairs being done on a continuing basis subject to weather conditions.
- The boiler room has had various things done to reduce condensation and water seepage through brickwork but the basic problem of flooding remains. Hopefully before the end of this year or the start of 2022, a new strategy of fitting a drain overflow expansion pipe will be carried out. The fittings are ready and waiting in the boiler room as of December.
- During the late 2021 gardening day a 'french drain' was dug along the north aisle external wall and filled with shingle. The intention is to reduce the dampness in that wall in particular. Recent moisture readings suggest a minor improvement is taking place, but readings will be taken later in 2022 to see if the new installation has helped significantly.
- In mid November an inspection of our bells took place, by a member of the Sussex Churches Bell Restoration Fund. This was extremely informative and while the bells are safe to be rung for the foreseeable future, there are various minor but important maintenance tasks to be carried out early in 2022 and one item, the clapper in the tenor bell which will require the attention of a professional bellhanger.
- Boiler servicing done in early December and oil tank refilled as necessary to meet winter demand.
- New air hand driers installed in the barn centre toilets and other electrical works carried out.

Many other minor tasks too numerous to mention have been been dealt with. I would single out for mention a number of members of Church staff or PCC who have been essential to me carrying out my role as sexton. Christopher Hume both as treasurer and in charge of churchyard matters, Rebecca Hume, vergers with whom of necessity, I have a good working relationship, Julian Avis for all building related works and the tower bells and Jeremy Burdett for literally doing the spadework! There is still much to be done next year, but quite a lot of the activity taking place this year is in preparation for our next quinquennial inspection in May 2022.

Maintenance costs overall are expected to drop considerably during 2022 since the most critical works which were outstanding have already been done dealt with during the period 2020/2021

Anthony Bailey

Outward Giving Group

The group was allotted £4000 from church funds to disburse as it thought best.

The following payments were made during the year:

Chichester diocese Family Support Work	£600
Bevern Trust	£600
Leprosy Mission	£600

Wycliffe Bible translators for Katy Barnwell	£1000
Links International to go towards projects in Colombia	£600
Jimmy's Farm	£600

We have been updating the PCC about proposals to help the Wayuu people in Colombia, an indigenous people lacking any form of government support and suffering malnutrition. The project will aim initially to raise funds for the completion of their church and other facilities in the village of El Brasil. It is hoped that we can help set up water supply and food production in co-operation with Links International and other charities.

Although some funds may come from St. Mary's, we propose to widen the fund-raising to individuals in the church and beyond.

Jeremy Burdett

Churchyard Report 2021

Our Churchyard continued to progress in 2021.

We aim to serve our Church and our community by maintaining our lovely Churchyard as a fitting resting place for the departed, a safe, attractive and welcoming place for the many walkers who use the footpaths running through it, and a pleasant and peaceful place for the many people who like to spend time for reflection and refreshment on the seating we provide.

A lot of time, care and expense goes into the maintenance and development this requires. We spent over £5,000 on this in 2021.

We have the trees inspected for health and safety each year by Connick Tree Care, and carry out an annual program of tree work base on their recommendations. Grass cutting and path spraying are carried out regularly.

In 2021, for the first time, we grew out the central part of our old Churchyard to allow wild flowers and small mammals and insects to flourish between March and September. The results were promising, with a spectacular showing of oxeye daisies during the season. We shall continue this program in 2022 and future years, aiming to improve the diversity of wildflower and bird and wild life in this area.

In addition to paid work, a lot of our development work is carried out by our congregation on our two garden days each year. Many people work extremely hard, and their achievements over the years continue to beautify our Churchyard. Some good progress each year, and regular maintenance have paid real dividends. We receive many compliments these days, including a pleasing accolade from a recent DAC (Diocesan) inspection.

This year a hard-working team of our volunteers installed a French drain around those parts of our Church walls suffering damp from exposure to soil. This will be a major long-term improvement to our splendid and ancient Church building.

Our garden days are not just hard work – we enjoy a pleasant lunch and social gathering at the conclusion of each garden day, and these two occasions are an important and rewarding part of our Church year.

I am most grateful to all our congregational members who have worked so hard in our Churchyard. I am also most grateful to the many people who have donated plants, and to Bobbie Blundy who donated a splendid new bench for the centre of our New Churchyard.

Christopher Hume

St Mary's Lunch Club

We started back at our lunch club the 2nd Monday of the month in September 2021 after a break of 18 months due to Covid. We had a meeting first and thought it best to only invite 24 elderly folk to keep numbers low and minimise spread so we could spread out more in the Barn Centre. We also stopped our raffle and inviting outsiders in for entertainment. Actually we have sadly lost a few of our previous members and Jo one of our Fantastic cooks. so we only currently have 30 at the most on our register so most months we average 20-25. It is lovely to see everyone again and we still have 2 amazing teams of cooks our amazing pudding queens and amazing volunteers some of which are new and learning the routine off our experts. We have had to increase our price to £6 due to rising costs but we often are blessed with donated meals from the Cook shop so we can offer a free meal. We have also been fortunate to have some amazing drivers who assist and help especially as a few of our members have memory problems and forget they are coming. Paul kindly cooked our amazing Christmas Turkey lunch when both teams came together and although due to Covid we couldn't hear the school children's carols we did have a great Father Christmas and shared presents and mince pies together.

Now restrictions are hopefully lifting we have advertised for more members and have lots organised, Country singing and dancing and Paul is kindly cooking for our Easter lunch in April which is also our 6th birthday celebration. We are sharing ideas and recipes with Chailey lunch club and we network with solos and Tea at three, which is lovely.

Issie Baty

Uckfield Deanery Synod

22.7.21

The synod met over a zoom session for the elections of officers and News from various parishes.

25.11.21

The Synod members were welcomed in person at All Saints; Danehill with a very inspirational talk by Debbie Beer, Diocesan Environmental Officer, there was plenty of discussion and questions especially about the best types of heating. There is plenty of information available online to guide Churches and Debbie is a very useful contact.

Patsy Bailey

Solo Friends

Background

Solo Friends was inaugurated on 31st January 2019 as an activity group through which people living in their own in Newick could join in social events



Membership

Since then the number of Friends has steadily grown largely by word of mouth invitation.

Total membership is now 45 of which at least half are regular attenders at our activities.

All members are kept informed of activities and other matters of interest through a regular Keeping in Touch newsletter.

Events

The gradual lifting of Covid-19 restrictions has enabled us to resume full activities with monthly planning meetings in the Barn Centre and coffee mornings at The Pantry.

Monica Haynes continues to do an amazing job as central co-ordinator emailing a list of forthcoming events.

Our programme has a wealth & variety of events, with regular lunches at local pubs & restaurants, including two very enjoyable Christmas lunches.

Many of the activities are at Friends homes including lunches, teas and wine tasting as well as Canasta & Scrabble

We are also supporting village events, such as NADS & the Village Hall Film Nights as they restart.

Finance

There is no need for significant financial assistance as all events are self funding and we have enjoyed free use of the Barn Centre.

Individuals are responsible for paying for their own tickets for events.

Car sharing is used wherever possible and a fair means of cost sharing agreed with the driver.

To help offset printing and other expenses we recently had a bring and buy sale and hold a petty cash box.

Structure

The activities of Solo Friends are legally part of the pastoral work of St Mary's and as such a report summarising its activities are required to be submitted to the PCC.

The risk assessment responsibilities fall under the Health & Safety Policy of St Mary's.

Solo Friends are most grateful to the PCC for permitting their activities to be treated as part of St Marys pastoral activity and for the use of the Barn Centre.

Ian Reekie

Coffee Café

During the past year Coffee Café found itself frequently opening and closing its doors, trying to balance the avoidance of Covid with the need amongst us all to find some normality in life, which included our weekly chat over a cup of coffee, adding to our sense of well-being after such a long time where we had to keep our distance from each other. Great emphasis was still placed upon keeping that distance, when we were advised to return to the pews with our coffee and when absolutely everything from sugar to cake was served in its own wrapper.

The Coffee Café has now become increasingly popular both before and after our 10:00 a.m. services, particularly on Owls Sundays with the children hunting for that early morning chocolate biscuit and parents looking for that early morning coffee moment – and the opportunity to socialise with other parents.

We alternate the venue between the back of the Church and the Barn Centre – the Barn Centre is particularly popular in the summer where one can relax outside in the morning sunshine, whilst the Church Café remains popular with early arrivals.

A small team of volunteers keep the Café running in both venues but it is a small team and it would be greatly appreciated if additional volunteers could step forward, even if it is once a year, to give this team the pleasure of having coffee served to them, without having to worry about the milk, the cakes, the biscuits, the sugar, the drinks, the cups, the clearing up afterwards – and it is a rewarding time, enabling one to meet the congregation, sharing the cake and the chatter.

Rebecca Hume

Christmas Tree Festival

Having had a greatly reduced festival in 2020 we were delighted to be able to look at a bigger event for '21. The weekend was a great success with just shy of £2200 being raised. After expenses the total divided between St Mary's and St Peter & St James Hospice was just under £2000.

We had 37 trees sparkling in the church which was a great result, bearing in mind the escalating omicron/Covid concerns and having had several tree exhibitors cancel fairly last minute.

We did lose 12 booked stalls from the Saturday market which was disappointing as it literally halved the size but we looked at repositioning the 11 we had and it worked really well. There was a real buzz about the place and was naturally the busiest day of the three, with continual footfall between the church and the market. The Vicars BBQ was a huge success and with a choice of hot and cold drinks, cakes and even mulled wine to accompany a sausage or bacon bap, people happily enjoyed the food and the trees. The collection bucket in the church alone filled with £560 that day!

For reference, the main reason for stallholders cancelling was the draw of the Bluebell Vineyard market which was the same day and had a larger commercial feel which some stallholders felt would be more beneficial for them. There was also a non-refundable prepaid deposit scheme in place which is something we could potentially consider for future events. We also need to consider what other events may be taking place at the same time in the local area as this year particularly, the weekend of 10th - 12th December was very popular for fairs and markets.

Voting on the trees was also very successful over the course of the weekend and the top trees were:

UNDER 18'S		
Cubs & Scouts	61	First
Newick Primary School	46	Second
Newick Pre School	41	Third
CLUBS & SOCIETIES		
Rugby Club "Gnome Alone"	76	First
The Pantry	71	Second
Allotment Society	58	Third

The event closed at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday but we still saw people coming along to view the trees until 5:00 p.m. saying they really wanted a quick look before they all disappeared and we couldn't disappoint.

Thanks must go to everyone who worked hard leading up to and over the festival weekend to make it the success it was and that includes all the lovely bakers who provided cakes to be sold across the weekend in the church - and those who gave up their time to be in Church welcoming visitors and serving refreshments.

There were some lovely comments made by visitors to the church and one stall-holder said:

"After a late night running a party in London it was nice to have lovely people and other traders around. It didn't feel like working, we had steady sales and we would happily attend next year".

Sarah Fuller

Barn Centre

Another Strange Year

Putting together a report for the year ended 2021 required a bit of head scratching as we were slowly and painfully moving out of a full blown pandemic to a much freer world, but changed by its effects. The last Barn Centre committee meeting had been in January 2020 and since then there seemed little point having face-to-face committee meetings which would risk social distancing, zoom meetings are

never great. We have started our meetings again in November 2021 with an intention of quarterly meetings. Although the enterprise is fairly self-maintaining having a committee and recorded minutes is important as evidence when seeking grants of any kind.

Finances

The Barn Centre is primarily a church hall and as such, because it serves the Church first, it does not have to pay its way, but the utility bills still keep coming. However as hires have steadily increased and people have felt more able to meet socially again, this has gone some way to offsetting the running costs of the building.

Maintaining The Barn Centre

Throughout the pandemic SB and AB have continued to keep the building running and taking bookings as the waves of varying regulations allowed. It is good to report that thanks to gradual, and now complete relaxation of Covid regulations SB has been able to maximise bookings in the building to a more or less pre-pandemic level which is very much to her credit. The building has been kept clean and tidy and functional with provision of hand sanitiser, anti-bacterial cleaner, wipes and gloves and a Covid policy intended to ensure the safety of hirers. Our regular hirers have been very good about observing safe usage such as plenty of ventilation, social distancing and judicious use of masks. As a result the rate of infections was more or less nil up to the end of 2021.

Improvements

In December new air hand driers were installed in the toilets which obviates the nuisance of paper towels. The toilet block roof was going to be completely re-felted but had to be deferred to early 2022. Some internal improvements are still possible in order to make the building as usable and welcoming to congregation and hirers until a hoped for upgrade building programme can be put in place. The Church would really struggle to cope without the much used facilities the Barn Centre provides.

Anthony Bailey

Flower Team

Following the 2020 Lockdown restrictions, it is a joy to return to Worship at St. Mary's in 2021. As the services are now streamed The Rector has requested an additional flower arrangement near the lectern, this is now included in the weekly flower rota and our funds increased to allow for the additional expense. We are mindful of finances and keep our costs as low as possible.

The donations for Easter Lilies were exceptional this year, this enabled the church to be beautifully decorated for the Easter Services.

Harvest was again one of the highlights of the year, with bright, colourful arrangements in celebration. We welcomed four people who joined our workshop for Remembrance Sunday. It was a delightful session and they produced amazing wall hangers as part of the decorations in the Nave. It was uplifting to be part of the Team, and the Remembrance Poppies were appreciated by everyone. These ladies have agreed to join us again for the Christmas workshop, and we look forward to another successful session.

Five additional people joined the usual team for the Christmas decorations, this was an enjoyable session and beautiful arrangements were produced.

We appreciate the assistance we have had for the festivals, and the additional help from the two gentlemen that come to our aid for repairs, provision of mechanics etc. we couldn't manage without them.

For various reasons the flower team has dwindled and we need more recruits to join the rota, not just for arranging, but who would be prepared to be called upon for generally helping out. As with our new ladies we would welcome anymore persons that would consider joining us. No special skills are needed, just a love of flowers and a willingness to join in.

The Flower Team

Church Cleaning

I am always surprised by the number of people who walk into St. Mary's and say that it feels like a well-cared for and much loved Church – and this is from all aspects, not just the cleaning.

The task of keeping our church clean can be quite a challenge, from muddy days to pouring with rain days, to glorious sunshine days when every cobweb that didn't appear 5 minutes ago suddenly makes its presence felt.

In addition to the mid-week cleaning, I have on a few occasions, when preparing for special events, been offered – and gratefully accepted - assistance by one or two members of our congregation, thus cutting down what could be a three to four hour task to under two.

Before Covid disrupted our lives, we used to have a team of volunteers who would appear on Saturday mornings, or Friday afternoons if we had a wedding, to make sure that all was in order for the weekend. I hope that we might re-instate this rota system and I would also like to see our Spring Cleaning morning re-instated, even if it becomes a Summer or Autumn event, as there are some aspects of church cleaning that cannot be undertaken by one person on their own and like; our Garden Days, it is always good to see us all working together.

My thanks to everyone for helping me keep St. Mary's as the much loved Church that it is – and don't hesitate in letting me know when you spy those sunshine cobwebs.

Rebeca Hume

Choir

It has been good to welcome back all our members of the choir to lead the music and worship for our services at Newick.

Recently, we were able to say farewell to Vivienne at her Memorial Service, which was a touching celebration of a wonderful person and someone who was much loved and valued by family and friends.

During the past year we have been pleased to welcome Amy Tapp and Emma Lomas as sopranos and to benefit from increased numbers of voices in the choir.

As a choir we have much enjoyed welcoming Chailey to our combined services and having members of the Chailey Choir join with us for these occasions. The next combined service is planned for the end of May when we shall be singing an Introit & the Anthem: *"With a Voice of Singing"*. We also much enjoyed singing with Chailey choir for their combined service earlier this year and we look forward to joining with them at Chailey on Maundy Thursday.

Preparations for our Service of Devotion for Holy Week "Stainer's Crucifixion" are going well and will lead into the Easter Services.

The church choir at St Mary's Newick much value the kind comments of encouragement and support they receive from members of the church and parishioners. We continue to be a happy band of pilgrims and shall be pleased to welcome new members should anyone wish to come and sing with us.

Jonathan Fenton-Vince

Safeguarding Report

The Church Website has the relevant policies, information and how to report concerns and access help. I keep a record of all those who are DBS checked and inform them when their checks need to be renewed. DBS checks now, have to be renewed every 3 years, as required by the Diocese, on the advice of the Charity Commission. Although, the Diocese informed Safeguarding Officers in January, to only place those with a new DBS check on the 3 year cycle. They said to keep those who had a current DBS on the 5 year cycle, as they were and only change this, when they have a new DBS check done.

Online Safeguarding training is available on the Diocese website. Face-to-face training has been withdrawn by the Diocese. This is challenging for some of our volunteers and we will be looking at how they can be supported to do this training.

Lee Buck, who runs the Youth Club Lee Buck and Ali, who runs Owls are very aware of their responsibilities for Safeguarding and Health and Safety.

Cara Barseghian, who is running the Youth Choir has completed her DBS and is aware of Safeguarding issues.

There are no outstanding Safeguarding issues.

Caroline Smith

Ringers' Report

During the last year, we have managed to ring for most church services as normal, including school services.

We rang for three weddings and a funeral.

We hosted two teams of visiting ringers.

We were privileged to have a visit from Trisha Hawkins, the great, great granddaughter of Mrs Blaauw who gifted the church the peal of bells in 1867.

Alan Young and I also had the 'privilege' of tolling the tenor for 30 minutes in honour of HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, on the day of his funeral on 17th April.

To finish the year off, we rang 2021 out from 11:45 until 11:59, at midnight the tenor struck 12, then the whole peal joined in ringing "Queens" (1,3,5,2,4,6) until 00:10 on 1.1.22. Then we each, along with a few parishioners who had come along – I think to see what all the noise was about, had a shot of port, wished for a better 2022, then all went home.

I think this was a well-received re-starting of an old tradition which had, unfortunately, not been done here for some years. I would like to try to make it an annual feature of Newick if we can.

We have taught two new ringers who will shortly become part of the team I can call upon to ring.

We arranged for a check-up of the bells by Nick Cullen of the Sussex Bell Restoration Society. He suggested a few tweaks, but nothing of great concern. Most have been carried out by our Sexton Tony and me. One or two are still in hand.

Finally, on behalf of my team, thank you for letting us ring your bells. We get enjoyment when we ring well, but occasionally we have an off day, for which I apologise! But you have to take the rough with the smooth.

Thank you

Julian Avis - Captain of Bells

APCM - Finance Report for 2021

St Mary's enjoyed a sound year financially in 2021.

We were fortunate to receive a bequest of £36,681 from the Walter Lacey estate. We also received a one-off return of capital of £3,872 from the Diocese in respect of long-standing legacies from many years ago where we qualified to receive the capital sum.

We also benefited from the success of our 2020 Christmas Appeal for youth work, which, when gift aid was taken into account, resulted in the establishment of a fund for Youth Work of £17,384.

Regular and Plate giving rose by £7824 during the year. In a year made difficult by Covid, this splendid result reflects the remarkable generosity of our congregation.

Our general expenses rose by £10487 during the year. Our youth work expenditure during the year of £8005 was charged to the Youth Fund in 2021 rather than to general expenses as in 2020. Taking this into account, our expenditure on the business and mission of the Church rose by £18492.

This has left the Church in a sound position with total funds on hand in our working (Barn, Dance, Fabric, Flower and Youth Work) funds, our General Fund which finances our everyday expenditure and our designated Reserve Funds (Lacey, Manwell) of £134,805.

This is satisfactory, but looking further forward we face some serious emerging financial challenges. Our congregation is ageing. A small number of major donors, all of mature years, provide a substantial proportion of our income. The scourge of inflation will reduce real income over the period to 31 12 2023, which will put pressure on giving. I estimate that this scourge of inflation will also reduce the value of our reserves by at least 10% by the end of 2023, which represents a serious loss for us.

At the same time we are spending increasing amounts on our mission and outreach. Our magazine now goes free, in colour to every household in the village, which is splendid outreach, but will turn the modest profit we used to make into a small loss. We budgeted and planned for this, of course, but it must still be paid for. And we shall spend increasing amounts on Youth Work, and Pastoral Care. This expenditure will mainly be met in 2022 from the proceeds of our successful Christmas 2020 and Christmas 2021 appeals for these activities.

After prayerful consideration we have decided to respond to these challenges with a giving campaign starting in May 2022. A key element of this will be an appeal for legacies. The Church of England has always relied heavily on legacy funding, and St Mary's is no exception. We shall continue to depend on Legacies in the years to come to support our Good Lord's work in Newick.

Christopher Hume

St Mary's Church Newick 2021

General Fund, year ended 31st December

	2021	2020	
Income			
Regular Giving	47,352	61,849	
Other	55,050	32,868	
Plate	9,397	7,359	
Bequests	36,681		
Tax Recovered	20,115	22,015	124,091
Interest received		143	557
Wedding and funeral fees		2,660	12,751
Fund Raising			
Sundry receipts		3,872	526
Magazine - income	11,493	11,233	
- expense	-4,600	-5,440	5,793
Barn Centre - income	3,658	350	
- expense	-6,171	-3,282	-2,932
TOTAL INCOME		179,650	140,785
Expense			
Charitable Giving	4,000	4,000	
Parish Contribution	60,718	61,648	
Church & Churchyard expenses	32,681	28,815	
Clergy & rectory expenses	13,708	12,863	
Mission & Evangelism	3,867	1,172	
Youthwork expenses	0	5,065	
Cost of Services	9,362	4,025	
Worship	0	976	
Sundry Expenses		1,250	
Administration Expenses	9,279	3,314	
TOTAL EXPENSES		133,614	123,127
Excess of income over expense		46,036	17,658
Transfer to Fabric Fund		-50	
Transfer to DFF fund		-30	
Transfer to Barn fund		-2,318	
Transfer to Youth fund		-17,384	
Transfer to Lacey fund		-36,681	
Fund brought forward		46,206	28,548
		35,779	46,206
BALANCE SHEET			
Fixed Asset - Audio visual system		8,000	16,000
Current Assets			
Cash on Deposit		110,067	82,020
Cash at Bank		24,021	17,826
Accounts receivable		4,027	15,004
		138,114	114,850
Loan amounts outstanding		-1,140	-17,384
Magazine advertising paid in advance		-10,123	-8,345
Current Assets less current liabilities		126,852	89,121
TOTAL ASSETS less LIABILITIES		134,852	105,121
FUNDS			
General		35,779	46,206
Barn		-888	-3,205
Dance		3,878	3,848
Fabric		11,527	19,477
Flower		1,736	2,036
Lacey		36,681	0
Manuel		36,759	36,759
Youth		9,379	0
TOTAL FUNDS		134,852	105,121

St Mary's Church, Newick

Balance Sheet detailed

		As at 31/12/2021	As at 31/12/2020
Fixed assets			
	6430: Audio Visual System	8,000	16,000
	Total Fixed assets	8,000	16,000
Current assets			
	6501: Bank current account	24,021	17,826
	6510: CCLA (CBF) deposit account	110,067	82,020
	Z05: Accounts Receivable	4,027	15,004
	Total Current assets	138,114	114,850
Liabilities			
	6699: Agency collections	0	1614
	Z04: Accounts Payable	1,140	15,770
	Z04-1: Mag creditor	10,123	8,345
	Z04-2: NCR	0	-
	Z04-3: NDT funds	0	-
	Total Liabilities	11,263	25,729
	Net Asset surplus (deficit)	134,852	105,121
Reserves			
	Excess/(deficit) to date	29,731	4052
	Z01: Starting balances	105,121	101,069
	Total Reserves	134,852	105,121

Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of St Mary's Newick

This report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31st December 2021, set out on the previous pages is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2008 (The Regulations) and s43 of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act).

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the Examiner.

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts: you consider that the audit requirements of the "Regulations" and "The Act" do not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those accounts in accordance with the terms of the "Regulations".

Basis of this report.

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 43(7)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church guidance, 2006 edition.

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

Independent Examiner's statement.

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

1. Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respects the requirements
 - a) To keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the act and
 - b) to prepare accounts which accord with the regulating records and comply with the requirements of the Act and the Regulations 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.



Mr K Speirs
Fyndings, Station Road,
Plumpton Green BN7 3BX

3rd May 2022

St. Mary's Parish Church Newick

Vestry Meeting and Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)

Sunday 22nd May 2022

AGENDA

1. Welcome and prayers
2. In attendance and apologies for absence

VESTRY MEETING

3. Election of Churchwardens

APCM

4. Approval of the Minutes of the 2021 APCM
5. Mission Action Plan
6. Adoption of Diocesan Safeguarding Policy
7. Changes to the Electoral Roll
8. Election of Lay Representatives to the PCC
9. Annual Report to include:
 - a) Secretary's Report
 - b) Treasurer's Report including appointment of the Independent Examiner
 - c) Fabric Report
 - d) Deanery Synod Report
10. AOB
11. Close of Meeting

St. Mary's Parish Church Newick

Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Sunday, 23rd May 2021, 11:30 a.m.

1. Welcome and prayers

2. In attendance: Rev. Paul Mundy (Chair), Patsy Bailey, Tony Bailey, John Baker, Mel Balloch, Sue Balloch, Pat Beeston, Sylvia Chapman, Geoff Clinton, Ruth Connellan, Paddy Cumberlege, Dick Dyson, Jebby Dyson, June Ellis, Linda Farmer, Jonathan Fenton-Vince, Audrey Ford, Kate Francis, Sara Fuller, Gill Godsmark, Rosie Hallett, Christopher Hume, Rebecca Hume, Valerie Jago, Alex Jomiru, Allen Lucas, Juliette Lucas, Anthony Mallinson, Barry Mansfield, Shirley Mansfield, Ann Maxwell, Clive Maxwell, Alan Morgan, Lilian Morgan, Patricia Mundy, June Perou, Ron Perou, Ian Reekie, Christine Ripley, Malcolm Smith, Ash Stockwell, Josh Stockwell, Mandy Stockwell, Dorothy Thrower, Monica Todd, Peter Todd, Rosemary Walters, Jo Wood, Alan Young, Louise Young

Apologies for absence

Issie Baty, Jeremy and Jackie Burdett, Aveline Moore, John and Catherine Sclater, Caroline Smith

VESTRY MEETING

3. At the last Vestry Meeting in October 2020 (postponed due to the pandemic), Mel Balloch and Alan Young had been elected to continue serving as Churchwardens. As Alan was applying for Readership Training he was now required to step down as a warden. It was proposed that his place be taken by Sara Fuller. Sara's appointment was proposed by Alan Young, seconded by Rev'd Mundy and carried unanimously. Rev'd Mundy proposed a huge vote of thanks to Alan for his two years' service and wished him God speed with his Readership application. Sara was also thanked for being ready to step up to this important office. Mel Balloch had agreed to continue for a sixth year. His appointment was proposed by Paul Mundy, seconded by Sara Fuller and carried unanimously. Rev'd Paul said he would be lost without his Churchwardens. He asked those present to pray for up and coming Churchwardens and to consider if they themselves were being called. God works through his Holy Spirit he emphasised and asked that people would 'give God the time'.

APCM

4. Minutes of the previous annual meeting

Acceptance of the minutes of the previous APCM, held on 11th October 2020, was proposed by Jonathan Fenton-Vince, seconded by Linda Farmer and passed unanimously. These were then signed by Rev'd Paul Mundy.

5. Know – Love – Follow – Jesus

Rev'd Mundy asked people to read the Annual Report which outlined our Mission for 2020 and showed clearly where God had been at work. He gave thanks to the Pastoral Care Team and to Valerie, Gill, Rebecca and Tony for all they had done to keep the Church open, covering all the necessary cleaning and social distancing requirements. We had continued to spread our Christian witness and to follow the Diocesan direction to Know, Love and Follow Jesus. Many had worked on a

voluntary basis, picking up the 'phone and keeping in touch with those who were isolated and many also had been very generous in their giving. Blessings on all.

One of the major changes had been worshipping on line, with many new people now staying in touch through our streamed and recorded services. This morning a large number had been watching the 8.00am Communion Service.

6. Adoption of Diocesan Safeguarding Policy

The Safeguarding Officer, Caroline Smith was not present today as she had spent all of the previous day training. Rev'd Mundy was thankful that Safeguarding was taken so seriously in St. Mary's. The Diocesan Safeguarding Policy had already been approved by the PCC.

7. Changes to the Electoral Roll

Mandy Stockwell reported that the Electoral Roll had remained stable since the last APCM, losing just two members who had died. One hundred and thirty nine people were presently on the Electoral Roll. It was hoped that the current influx of baptisms might encourage more families to join

8. Election of Lay Members to the Deanery Synod

The current Lay Members on the Deanery Synod had been appointed until 2023 (Jeremy Burdett, Patsy Bailey, Kate Francis). Members of the congregation were encouraged to consider applying for election in 2023. Membership provided an excellent opportunity to listen to other churches and exchange ideas with them.

9. Election of Representatives to the PCC

Issie Baty was the only person retiring from the PCC. She had been a great asset to the PCC during her years of service for which she was warmly thanked. No new members were proposed for election. If people were interested in joining the PCC they could talk to Christopher Hume or Sue Balloch in the first instance.

10. Annual Report 2020 including:

a) Secretary's report: there were no questions

b) Treasurer's report: Christopher Hume had been moved by the generosity of the congregation, with £17,500 donated to maintaining the work of the Children and Families Missioner and Youth Club Leader. Rev'd Mundy expressed his deepest thanks to Christopher Hume, Ruth Connellan and Robin Parris for taking over the Treasury work after Brian Hay died and for steering us so brilliantly through the pandemic. Christopher Hume extended his thanks to Mel Balloch. The Independent Examiner, Mr K Speirs, was unanimously approved. There were no questions.

c) Fabric report: the Churchwardens had been unable to make a visual check of the Church themselves but Tony Bailey as Sexton had assumed day to day responsibility for Fabric. Thanks were given to Tony for the thought, care and extensive work he had been putting into this central task. Alan Young commented on the wonderful change effected by the cleaning of the Millenium window. He also noted that the extra light now obtained through cleaning the west window had thrown up other problems.

There had been very complimentary feedback from the community on the wonderful maintenance of the churchyard. Thanks were due to Christopher Hume, Alan Young, Rebecca Hume, Tony Bailey and

others and to all who had supported the recent Garden Day. The churchyard was a window on the church for the community. Its maintenance had involved taking down trees, mending walls and all manner of other tasks. Alan Young said that sometimes it was difficult to realise that the churchyard had to be operated under certain rules and thanked people for their patience. Feedback was always appreciated.

d) Deanery Synod report: there were no questions.

The Annual Report 2020 was unanimously approved, proposed by Mel Balloch and supported by Dorothy Thrower. Rev'd. Mundy was thanked for his love and leadership and for the huge effort he had put in over the previous months to bring us through all the difficulties of the previous year.

Rev'd Mundy said that some things had happened both magically and miraculously. One thing was certain, he could not have done this without a Verger and Valerie Jago had been amazing, enabling all of us to continue. He gave a sincere vote of thanks to both Valerie and Chris Jago for all they had done. Although she had now stepped down, Valerie had offered to help our new Verger, Rebecca Hume, and our Deputy Verger Gill Godsmark when needed and everyone was very grateful for this. Rev'd Mundy thanked all for their support through the most difficult of years and said he felt extremely blessed.

11. AOB

There were no further matters raised but it was noted that the swearing in of the Churchwardens would take place in Crowborough on 21st June.

12. Close of Meeting

PKM thanked all those attending and closed the meeting with a prayer.

St Mary's Church Newick 2021																			
General Fund, year ended 31st December																			
Income																			
Regular Giving																			
Other																			
Plate																			
Bequests																			
Tax Recovered																			
Interest rceived																			
Wedding and funeral fees																			
Fund Raising																			
Sundry receipts																			
Magazine - income																			
- expense																			
Barn Centre - income																			
- expense																			
TOTAL INCOME																			
Expense																			
Charitable Giving																			
Parish Contribution																			
Church & Churchyard expenses																			
Clergy & rectory expenses																			
Mission & Evangelism																			
Youthwork expenses																			
Cost of Services																			
Verger																			
Sundry Expenses																			
Administration Expenses																			
TOTAL EXPENSES																			
Excess of income over expense																			
Transfer to Fabric Fund																			
Transfer to DFF fund																			
Transfer to Barn fund																			
Transfer to Youth fund																			
Transfer to Lacey fund																			
Fund brought forward																			
BALANCE SHEET																			
Fixed Asset - Audio visual system																			
Current Assets																			
Cash on Deposit																			
Cash at Bank																			
Accounts receivable																			
Less amounts outstanding																			
Magazine advertising sales in advance																			
Current Assets less current liabilities																			
TOTAL ASSETS less LIABILITIES																			
FUNDS																			
General																			
Barn																			
Dance																			
Fabric																			
Flower																			
Lacey																			
Manwell																			
Youth																			
TOTAL FUNDS																			

<u>Notes to Accounts 2021</u>							
1	In 2020 some Donations were coded to Regular Giving, coding corectly split in 2021						
2	Includes donation to Christmas appeal for Pastoral Care Fund. Separate fund to be created to n						
3	Fewer services held in 2021						
4	Sale of DBF Investment						
5	Barn Centre includes income and expenditure for Dancing for Fun and Fitness. Expenditure on						
6	Payments in 2020 totalled £60,648. An allocation of £1k to the barn centre expenses was incorr						
7	Youthwork expenses covered by separate designated fund - see breakdown in Specific Fund De						
8	Prior year parish administrator allocated to Churchexpenses						
9	Q4 gift aid, received in Feb 22						
10	Magazine advertising income received in Q4 of 2021						

<u>Statement of Reserve Funds at December 2021</u>			
Includes the general fund for maintaining ongoing church activities, fabric fund for specific upkeep of church assets, also the Manvell and Lacey Bequests to be used for specifically identified initiatives serve as long term reserves for stabilisation of the balance sheet.			
Fund	Opening	Income	Expenditure
General	46,206	186,716	-142,575
Fabric	19,477	0	-8,000
Manvell	36,759	0	0
Lacey	0	0	0
TOTAL	102,442	186,716	-150,575

fund transfer	Closing		
-54,615	35,732		
50	11,527		
0	36,759		Specific Bequest, to be used for funding musical initiatives and projects
36,681	36,681		Partially allocated to fund the Newick Parish Magazine for 3 years to a maximum of £8k per year
-17,884	120,699		

Statement of Working Funds at December 2021			
Specific Funds for particular activities or initiatives, includes funds created following identified appeals.			
Fund	Opening	Income	Expenditure
Barn	-3,205	2,628	-810
Dance	3,848	1,030	-1,000
Flower	2,036	100	-400
Youth	0	0	-8,005
TOTAL	2,679	3,758	-10,215
Pastoral care fund - to be created in 2022 from General fund receipts in 2021.			

fund transfer	Closing		
500	-888		
0	3,878		
0	1,736		
17,384	9,379		Originally created via the Christmas appeal in 2020 to fund Youthwork in the village.
17,884	14,105		

St Mary's Church, Newick
Fund movement summary
Selected period: 01 January 2021 to 31 December 2021

Fund	Fund balances brought forward	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	Gains and Losses	Fund balances Carried forward
Barn	-3,205	2,628	810	500 -		-888
Dance	3,848	1,030	1,000	0 -		3,878
Fabric	19,477	0	8,000	50 -		11,527
Flower	2,036	100	400	-		1,736
Lacey		0	0	36,681 -		36,681
Manwell	36,759	0	0	-		36,759
Youth		0	8,005	17,384 -		9,379
General	46,206	186,716	142,575	-54,615 -		35,732
Totals	105,121	190,474	160,790	0 -		134,805

St Mary's Church, Newick
Receipts and payments
Selected period: 01 January 2021 to 31 December 2021

Note	From To	1-Jan-21 31-Dec-21
General - General fund (Unrestricted) Fund		
Income and endowments		
Donations and legacies		
Parish Giving Scheme		47,351.95
Gift Aid - Envelopes - do not use		0
Other		793.45
Plate		9,397.12
Giving through church boxes		0
Donations appeals etc		90,437.83
Tax recovered		20,115.34
Legacies		0
Recurring grants		0
Non-recurring one-off grants		500
Other funds generated		0
Total Donations and legacies		131,914.69
Income from charitable activities		
Fees for weddings and funerals		3,800.00
Bookstall sales to promote objectives		0
Barn rental		0
Total Income from charitable activities		3,800.00
Other trading activities		
Bookstall sales - fund raising		48
Magazine income - advertising		9,000.00
Parish magazine sales		2,492.62
Total Other trading activities		11,540.62
Investments		
Dividends		47.7
Bank and building society interest		48.59
Total Investments		96.29
Other income		
Surplus - sales of fixed assets		3,824.22
Total Other income		3,824.22
Total Income and endowments		151,175.82
Expenditure		
Raising funds		
Costs of fetes & other events		0
Total Raising funds		0
Expenditure on charitable activities		
NDT - Do not use	-	
Giving - LINKS International		4,000.00
Mission and Evangelism		3,867.13
Parish share		60,718.00
Youthwork Staff costs		-0.48
Salary of parish administrator		4,620.95

Working expenses of incumbent	8,967.04
Council tax	2,738.55
Parsonage house expenses	1,150.99
Water rates - rectory	479.45
Clergy Development	0
Parish training and mission	371.82
Church running - insurance	4,758.91
Church Telephone & WiFi	331.01
Organ / piano tuning	457.56
Church maintenance	11,113.85
Cleaning	1,539.00
Upkeep of services	9,361.77
Upkeep of churchyard	7,045.64
Administration	4,027.74
Church running - electric	746.77
Church running - water	118.75
Church running - oil	1,643.75
Church running - heating and lighting	2,336.31
Magazine expenses	4,600.39
Bookstall costs	0
Barn running - electricity	1,666.12
Barn running - maintenance	1,551.67
Barn running - heating and lighting	0
Governance costs examination/audit fee	630
Church major repairs - structure	3,270.00
Church major repairs - installation	0
Hall + major repairs - structure	462
Hall + interior and exterior decorating	0
Other PCC property upkeep	0
Total Expenditure on charitable activities	142,574.69
Total Expenditure	142,574.69
Excess of Income and endowments over Expenditure	8,601.13
Brought forward balance	45,656.19
Transfers to/(from)	-17,384.10
Total carried forward balance	36,873.22

1-Jan-20

31-Dec-20

61,848.94	Balloch donaions moved to here from other				
-					
32,867.54					
7,359.13					
-					
0.04	Lacey bequest included here and transferred at year end				
22,015.04					
-					
-					
-					
-					
124,090.69	168,596				
12,751.00	Rebate to dioscee - 30%		1,140.00		
260					
350					
13,361.00					
16					
8,707.00					
2,526.00					
11,249.00					
187.22					
370.27					
557.49					
250					
250					
149,508.18	190,375				
Clergy	Barn	Churchyard & exp	Verger	Youthwork	
650					
650					
200		-			
4,000.00					
1,172.24					
61,648.00					
8,550.46					-0.48
5,144.55					

	8,614.55	8,967		
	2,933.50	2,739		
	348	1,151		
	499.69	479		
	210	0		
	257.11	372		
	3,657.67		1143	3,615.91
-				331.01
	186			457.56
	8,074.90			11,113.85
	2,409.64			1,539.00
	4,024.72			
	4,748.62			7,045.64
	2,424.10			
	60.08			746.77
	114.08			118.75
	1,880.42			1,643.75
	29.33			2,336.31
	5,440.40			Included as neg income
	153.28			0
	387.34	1,666		Included as neg income
	2,539.46	1,552		Included as neg income
	245.53	0		
	240			
-				3,270.00
	706.28			0.00
-				462.00
	110	0		0.00
	189.99			0.00
	131,199.94			
	131,849.94			
	17,658.24			45,989
	27,997.95			37,388
-				
	45,656.19			

St Mary's Church, Newick

Balance Sheet detailed

		As at 12/31/21	As at 12/31/20
Fixed assets			
	6430: Audio Visual System	8,000	16,000
	Total Fixed assets	8,000	16,000
Current assets			
	6501: Bank current account	24,021	17,826
	6510: CCLA (CBF) deposit account	110,020	82,020
	Z05: Accounts Receivable	4,027	15,004
	Total Current assets	138,068	114,850
Liabilities			
	6699: Agency collections	0	1614
	Z04: Accounts Payable	1,140	15,770
	Z04-1: Mag creditor	10,123	8,345
	Z04-2: NCR	0	-
	Z04-3: NDT funds	0	-
	Total Liabilities	11,263	25,729
	Net Asset surplus (deficit)	134,805	105,121
Reserves			
	Excess/(deficit) to date	29,684	4052
	Z01: Starting balances	105,121	101,069
	Total Reserves	134,805	105,121

Year end journals 2022				
	DR	CR		
1) Reverse PY journals				
Tax recovered	7504		General fund	
Z05: Accounts Receivable		7504	General fund	
Z04: Accounts Payable	11423		Youth fund	
Tax recovered		11423	Youth fund	
Tax recovered	11423		Youth fund	
Tax recovered		11423	general fund	
1) Gift Aid for Q4				
	DR	CR	FUND	
Tax recovered		4026.81	General	
Z05: Accounts Receivable	4026.81		General	
2) transfer Youthwork staff costs to Youthwork fund				
Youthwork Staff costs	3645		Youth	
Youthwork Staff costs		3645	General	
3) Defer Q4 magazine advertising receipts to 2022				
Magazine income - advertising		10122.6	General	
Z04-1: Mag creditor	10122.6		General	

Fund transf

<u>Reconciliation of Specific Funds 2021</u>			
<u>Lacey Fund</u>			
Created in 2021 from a specific bequest. This fund will be used for funding specifically identified initiatives			
Initial Donation	0		
Funding of Newick Magazine for 3 years from 2022 to a maximum of £8000 per annum. To support the project to improve the quality of the magazine and provide free of charge to the entire village community.	-24000		
Remaining balance	-24,000		
<u>Manwell</u>			
Specific Bequest, to be used for funding musical initiatives and projects			
Current balance	36,759		
Youth			
Originally created via the Christmas appeal in 2020 to fund Youthwork in the village.			
Original Balance	17,384		
Expenditure in 2021			
Staff remuneration			
Expenses			
2021 Closing balance	17,384		

Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of St Mary's Newick

This report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31st December 2021, set out on the previous pages is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2008 (The Regulations) and s43 of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act).

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the Examiner.

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts: you consider that the audit requirements of the "Regulations" and "The Act" do not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those accounts in accordance with the terms of the "Regulations".

Basis of this report.

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 43(7)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church guidance, 2006 edition.

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

Independent Examiner's statement.

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

1. Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respects the requirements
 - a) To keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the act and
 - b) to prepare accounts which accord with the regulating records and comply with the requirements of the Act and the Regulations 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.



Mr K Speirs
Fyndings, Station Road,
Plumpton Green BN7 3BX

3rd May 2022