



The Parish of The Upper Wreake Annual Report for 2023

The Parish of The Upper Wreake Parish consists of the churches of :-
 BROOKSBY St. Michael & All Angels; FRISBY on the WREAKE St.Thomas of Canterbury;
 HOBY, All Saints; KIRBY BELLARS St.Peter; RAGDALE All Saints; ROTHERBY All Saints.

Introduction:

This annual report has been produced in order to comply with the requirements of the Charities Act 1993, and the Church Accounts Regulations 1997. The intention is to provide a fuller picture of the life of the Church during the year than could be obtained from the accounts alone.

Objectives of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) and District Church Councils (DCC):

The PCC of the Parish meets at least four times a year to deal with any matters which concern the mission, development and administration of the Church, and is responsible for auditing decisions of the DCCs.

The DCCs function with delegated authority from the PCC in the care of the church buildings (held jointly by the local Churchwardens and the Incumbent), finance and the local mission of the Church.

Electoral Roll (as at Easter 2023)

	Brooksby	Frisby	Hoby	Kirby	Ragdale	Rotherby	Total
2024	6	23	39	15	10	15	108
2023	6	21	40	17	11	15	110

PCC Members

Chair:	The Revd David Harknett
Vice-Chair:	<i>Vacant</i>
Secretary:	Rev'd David
Treasurer:	Rev'd David
Pioneer Curate:	The Revd Crystal McAllister <i>until end Jan 2023</i>
<i>Elected Members:</i>	
Frisby-on-the- Wreake:	Pru Smith (CW), Simon Blake (CW)
Hoby:	Vic Allsop (CW), Nicola Wheeler (CW), June Allsop
Kirby Bellars:	David Davies (<i>observer Rep</i>)
Ragdale:	Jane Burgess (CW), Penny Coates (<i>observer Rep</i>)
Rotherby:	Sue Smith (CW), Lesley Potter (CW),
Brooksby:	Malcolm Britton (CW), Jeanne Knowles (CW) <i>until March 2023</i>
<i>Co-opted Members:</i>	Janet Norburn (SWF Safeguarding Officer)

CW = Churchwarden

"Four words that St. Paul uses for prayer...

supplication : open up your need to God

commitment : a promise, a pledge to God ... "I'm here for you"

intercession : a mark of the love that rises out of that commitment

thanksgiving : for the good things God has done AND absorbing his goodness

When all these things come together we are on fire with the Holy Spirit."

Rowan Williams

I'm a cradle Christian, growing from birth with the liturgical calendar – candles, choir and all. The seasons of the church year formed and shaped me, taking me on a never-ending journey. First, the Story of Jesus or ... Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, Pentecost (six months December to May). Second, the Story of the People of God or ... 'Ordinary Time' (six months from June through November). What a beautiful, divine marriage of heaven and earth; "thy kingdom come".

Yet, as I look back on 2023, it is the spectre of Minster Communities (MCs) which looms large, rather than either of the above stories. Glance down to the Deanery Synod Report (p22), and at the end you'll see a list of 7 different aspects of the Shaped by God Together process. I may have missed some, and there were certainly more conversations & email exchanges. Resulting in feedback from the Upper Wreake such as, "exhaustion ... mistrust".

My sadness is that while MCs dominated the thoughts and energies of many Churchwardens, who give generously already, the whole process is hardly on the radar of many congregants, and certainly not of the wider community. Sad, because the thrust of it all is God's kingdom coming, through the life of the local church, described by some as, "the hope of the world". Thankfully despite the adversity generated by the MC process, that "hope" is obvious in this Annual Report. As Matthew (@CrowsFault) tweeted; *"People speak of hope as if it is this delicate, ephemeral thing made of whispers and spider's webs. It's not. Hope has dirt on her face, blood on her knuckles, the grit of the cobblestones in her hair, and just spat out a tooth as she rises for another go."*

Hope... that the rhythm of nature can instruct us and bless us, even as we care for it.

Hope... in the face of protracted illness and death of an SWF clergy colleague.

Hope... that the tireless dedication of a few does sustain places of prayer & spaces for worship.

Hope... in the face of a hiatus in local, ecumenical relationships and togetherness.

Hope... that ordinary, faltering outreach will touch & transform neighbours' lives.

Hope... in the face of constant temptation to allow finance & fabric to be God-less.

Hope... that supplication, commitment, intercession, thanksgiving really can set us on fire.

Without the Spirit of Holiness (the spirit of the living, loving, re-creating, resurrecting God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ), we are individually and corporately moribund; nonflammable. The gospel remains good news for all in the Upper Wreake, as we continue to open ourselves up to God; promise to be here for Him; commit to love God and neighbour; absorbed in his goodness.

1.1 'Faith in Nature'

Rev'd Crystal (Ordained Pioneer Minister & Assistant Diocesan Director of Ordinands)

When I first came to Upper Wreake in 2019 as an ordinand, I spent that first year listening and praying, using my time to see evidence of where God was at work—connecting with people, looking for 'people of peace' who were open to my thoughts and who shared perhaps not a faith but a willingness to join in with something for the greater good. My curacy started in 2020, and I had 12 hours in Upper Wreake to learn the ropes of a parish priest, alongside trying to discern what God was calling me to be. It became evident that a gift I had obtained was to be able to hold 'spaces'. This raised the questions of 'where' and 'how.'

'Faith in Nature' was born out of a natural response to people, and evidence of seeing the Spirit at work. Using four values – Missional: engaging with people outside the church. Contextual: Love others and Christ in a way that fits people's situations. Formational: encouraging people, to be open to Christ as part of a fuller life, and Ecclesial: helping people coming to faith to form a Christian community.

How do we measure what is good? George Lings identified seven characteristic elements in Christian communities through the ages, which enable a richer expression of discipleship, mission and community when held in balance.



'Seven Sacred Spaces' allows an opportunity to ponder on this. It is not a strategy but a tool to see how healthy a community is.

Cell/ prayer – a private space to be alone with God:

How can we grow in prayer individually... daily stillness, weekly rhythm?

Evidence – Church is open to people, engaging their senses using relevant & accessible resources. Prayer resources, welcoming church signs, accessible, informative material, using times & seasons.

Chapel/ worship – a space for devotion/prayer with others:

How can we grow in leading and participating in communal worship?

Evidence – Intentional, structured worship intended to educate & 'discover'. Rhythm, regularity & familiarity that uses the 'everyday', the lectionary, other scripture (Pentecost, Mud, Lammas, Equinox).

Chapter/ meeting – a space of discussion and exchanging views:

How can we model community life through choosing to forgive, sharing hope, humbly making peace?

Evidence – The DCC is a place where discussion, debate & disagreement aid decision – wrapped in prayer & scripture. The DCC has grown in number & discovery of gifts – a community that laughs & cries together.

Cloister /mission– a space connecting church and the world:

How do we respond in compassionate action to the needs of neighbours, the voiceless, the poor?

Evidence – Though challenging, the giving away of money, time & physical items has become normal. normality. Connecting with others : WI, The Art Group, large frogs(!) and recognised Charities.

Garden/ work – a space of labour and productivity:

How do we follow Christ in our work, serving God through integrating values of faith where we dwell?

Evidence – Toilet & servery, school & family events; bats, birds, rewilding, bug hotels, Eco Church Bronze; concerts, music recitals, cleaning days. All tending the world that God created. Work as prayer.

Refectory/ sharing meals – a space for eating and hospitality:

How can we practise hospitality by welcoming the stranger, the isolated & lonely – sharing food?

Evidence - Eating together breeds oneness & belonging. Hoby All Saints is a place of work and rest connecting people through church, village hall & home – such as Coffee mornings; alternative Halloween.

Scriptorium Library/study – a space of learning to grow in knowledge:

How can we develop biblical and personal reflection, reading and study?

Evidence – Thoughtful, spiritual learning transforms the heart – we become Christ-like. Online groups; Rotherby New-Life Group... spirituality that makes sense of life, with vigorous yet achievable demands.

'Faith in Nature' has enabled Hoby All Saints to recover rhythms. A pattern of enabling & encouraging. A space to follow Jesus and the painful but liberating process of being transformed by him, in community. My hope and my prayer are that the continuation of connecting Church, Community and Home grows. By using this tool, other 'spaces' are not forgotten about. I would encourage you to ask the 'why' before the 'doing', to stop burnout, exhaustion and resentment which was felt across churches much as we emerged out of lockdown and people re-evaluated priorities.

Hoby DCC know that essential repairs need to be completed if funds allow it. Accessibility is key, as entrances can stop the movement of people, so although the church is always open, repairs to the entrance pillars and a new path accessible for all people of abilities are high on the list. A plan for a more structured rewilding of the churchyard is in place. A continuation of accessible and relevant worship that builds community is key. A DCC that continues to grow and shape together the future of Hoby All Saints – serving and loving the community, growing deeper in their spirituality and faith. Please do pray for them.

My Deanery role exits until June 2025 – unless it is shortened. In the framework of Minster Communities, every church will have a named person, 'minster', a point of contact. I will keep in contact in this capacity, with Vic and Nicola as churchwardens, equipping and enabling churches with mission and ministry and the development of pioneers and Fresh Expressions of Church, connecting schools, Churches and communities. There is learning from *'Faith in Nature'* that other churches, schools, and communities would value. Thank you, June, Ann, Sue, Richard, Jo for being open to change, your willingness to listen, for your continued kindness and love to my family, the encouragement in uncertainty and for the commitment and care of Vic and Nicola as your churchwardens.

Peace and love in His name, always.

I remember thinking that when we were living through the pandemic that there wouldn't be anything as challenging for us as churches again. I was wrong! Although we are still only now perhaps coming to terms with the longer-term impact of the pandemic on our society, and for us as churches, 2023 brought new challenges all of their own. Should I have been surprised? No, but it still caught me out somewhat.

The sadness for the Stothers family and for SWF continued in to 2023. Revd Neil's long-term absence continued and his deteriorating health meant that the likelihood of him returning to duties in his parishes wasn't going to happen. During the summer it was announced that Revd Neil would be retiring on the grounds of his ill health with effect from 1st November 2023. Very regrettably as we all now know Revd Neil didn't make it to his retirement date, and he sadly died on October 13th aged 63. Thankfully the family and friends had been able to facilitate his move to Southport just the week before, so all the family were close to one another to provide support for each other when it was needed most. Revd Neil's funeral took place on October 31st at Southport and it was pleasing that a number of people from SWF were able to make that journey and give support to the family that day. May he rest in peace, and rise in glory.

The Rectory at South Croxton after it was vacated on October 19th then became a project which lasted for almost two months, before it was handed over to the Diocese on 15th December for them to start the process of looking to let the property. The house was still fully furnished as Eileen and Chloe were downsizing significantly after their move to Southport. Thanks are due here to Jo Charles, Liz Norton and Linda Shaw for their hard work in helping to sell some items for the family, and arranging with the British Heart Foundation and Air Ambulance to collect furniture, with a final trip to the Charity Shop to hand on remaining items the family no longer needed or had room for. This has been no small task and we thank them all sincerely for a job well done in clearing the house as well as the continued support for the family given during this time.

Effectively both the South Croxton Group and Burrough Hill Parishes are now in vacancy (interregnum), and a vacancy meeting took place at Burrough on the Hill Parish Church on 26th October. We are more than delighted that we have the ministry of Revd Jane Walker in the Burrough Parishes and she has become a great support in SWF. During the year she been taking services in the South Croxton (SC) Group and has also taken weddings, baptisms and funerals. She has also taken weddings in the Upper Wreake.

It is also appropriate at this time to recall how valuable the retired clergy have been to us during the time of Revd Neil's illness, and now in vacancy. We are grateful to them all. We mention one name though, and that is Revd Canon Philip Norwood who has supported the mid-week services at Gaddesby and is taking Sunday services for us as well now that we are in vacancy. We thank Canon Philip for his significant contribution to the life of the church in our villages.

In the Upper Wreake (UW) we have continued with Revd David Harknett's ministry among us and

that of Revd Crystal McAllister. Changes to Revd Crystal's curacy arrangements meant that her particular association with Hoby and Brooksby in the Upper Wreake came to an end and later she was licensed at Waltham on the Wolds to all of the Deanery. Now Revd Crystal actually 'belongs' to us all! We have also been fortunate that Revd Crystal along with other stipendiary colleagues have been able to support the SC Group over the last year, namely the Area Dean – Revd John Barr, Revd David Cowie, Revd David Harknett and Archdeacon Richard. We must also thank Canon Malcolm who has given great service to SWF and he demonstrates very well the gifts lay ministry can bring to our worship. Thank you to you all.

The good thing for us all to see is that despite the difficulties that have been faced by Clergy illness and long-term cover for that and now vacancy, we have seen an increase in the number of Churchwardens and increased membership and new energy from the PCC's. We have small but dedicated groups of people who serve their parish church and the wider community. This is indeed very welcome news.

At Somerby which was struggling with its finances and was anxious for the future they have started to see an about turn. The founding of the Friends of All Saints and positive thoughts about how to tackle the issues that face the church are very encouraging. This is certainly something to celebrate. Then there are the Roof Resurrectors at Kirby Bellars, a parish church which still has a temporary roof covering after all the copper roofing was stolen many years ago now. The challenge to replace the roof is a daunting and expensive one, but a dedicated group of people work hard to make what may appear to many to be impossible actually become a reality. Working and responding as these two communities have has given me and I hope many others the ability to respond to the adversity that we face ourselves in our own communities, day by day.

This brings to mind Minster Communities (MC), which have been a constant in the life of our churches for most of this year. I intend to say very little about MC (I could say an awful lot more). I am though thankful that we have a MC pause until early 2024 and that we can focus upon what matters. The life of the church in these villages continues regardless of whether we are part of a Benefice, SWF, a Deanery or for that matter a MC. It is what happens locally that counts as without the local engagement there will be no church. I hope the MC process doesn't lose sight of that important ingredient.

2023 also saw the coronation of King Charles III with celebrations across the country and the first coronation many of us will have seen. A really positive outcome locally has been the 'Ring for the King' initiative, which was to recruit and teach as many as possible to ring our church bells for the coronation. The response has been amazing. The UW band has re-formed with 15 new bell ringers, and I know that elsewhere in SWF there are new bell ringers to continue this ancient and historic part of our Christian heritage. Long may our Church bells continue to ring and call us all to worship the King of Kings. We have much good news in SWF let the bells ring out that good news in 2024 loudly and clearly for all to hear. Amen.

3.0 School

Rev'd David

Winter Term : Charmaine Ainge continued shaping the school as its Head and (as a CofE primary) its spiritual Head. The Education & Schools Funding Agency (ESFA) continued to work with the Head & Governors on financial matters, while the Head & Chair of Governors pursued the decision to join Rise Multi-Academy Trust.

Rev'd David & Janet Norburn continued to serve as Governors, David leading Collective Worship on a regular basis, along with half-termly school Services in Frisby St.Thomas. Thanks to Pru & Simon for their dedication to this link with staff & pupils, including serving Refreshments to one Class plus parents after each church service.

Spring/Summer Term : St.Thomas hosted the Year 6 pupils "moving-up" transition, as school life ended with joy, tears & prayers.

Autumn Term : New staff were appointed, both male, with one full-time and the other part-time. Both Adam and James have been appreciated for the immediate difference they have made to the culture & ethos of the school.

Rev'd David supported Mrs Ainge in redesigning Collective Worship around a Pupil News resource. The school have also signed up to the Archbishop of York's "National Younger Leadership Groups", an exciting opportunity for young people to; "develop in pupil leadership, grow in faith and have their voices heard on key topics and issues that are important to them and their communities".

A Christmas gift consisting of a card, chocolate and Advent booklet was given to all Staff thanks to the church Mission & Ministry Fund.

As ever, individual priestly contact with the Head and school is easy, but it remains difficult to nurture school-church contact across the parish. The geography of the school being in just 1 of the 6 villages and the bisecting railway line, as well as the busy-ness of all reading this, explains some of the challenge. At the same time, the Church of England's vision and strategy, led by Archbishop Stephen Cottrell, has a focus on 'growing younger', which makes consultation and engagement with children and young people integral to the work of the church. How can we build on the long-term, warm relationships that we enjoy with Frisby Primary, for mutual benefit & growth?

4.0 Rotherby House Group

Lesley Potter

Rotherby hosts a weekly house group on a Wednesday afternoon in church or if it is cold in someone's home all denominations are welcome as well as people who wish to explore the bible more and their faith.

We have been studying books by Dave Tomlinson called the bad Christians manifesto and being a Christian, they have led us to explore our faith with really good conversations within the group. We have had one new lady join us recently Geraldine and she seems really knowledgeable and is a great asset to the group.

We celebrated Sharon birthday in June with a meal at my house, and a meal at Sue's earlier in the year we enjoy sharing time together and have become good friends, but this is not a closed group and everyone is made welcome, please come and give us a try.

5.0 Little Butterflies (Carers and Toddlers' Group)

Jenny Hurst

Little Butterflies, a weekly meeting for preschool children and carers is overseen & run by Jan Pascoe & Janet Norburn. It provides a support group, especially beneficial for those new to the area and parenthood.

5.1 Methodist Local Lay Pastor

Janet Norburn

~ The Hot Potato Group

These still attract a strong regular attendance, much appreciated by those who usually lunch alone.

~ The Tea and Cakes Group

The ecumenical monthly event run by Pru Smith and Jenny Hurst. We have a loyal group of people who come regularly and some who come when they can. We are also beginning to attract some newcomers to the village who enjoy the friendship and conversation as well as the home made cake. Dog walkers and owners are also coming. All dogs do however have to be on a lead!

~ DVD Ministry

The production, and weekly deliveries, of DVDs enable housebound people to be part of our worshipping community.

~ Circuit Superintendent

All the Methodist & ecumenical activities outlined here have continued, despite the extra workload taken on by the Circuit Leadership Team caused by Ruth's absence due to ill health.

Rev. Ruth remains on sick leave and her hip operation has been rescheduled. She is still our named superintendent although Helen Cameron is our acting superintendent whilst Ruth is on leave.

6.0 Safeguarding

Janet Norburn (SWF Safeguarding Co-ordinator)

awaiting

Mission, Worship and Events

During the year we had 9 Holy Communion Services, 2 baptisms (one incorporated into a 10.30 morning worship service) and 6 weddings, fewer than in previous years. Because of the fewer people attending the 8.30am services, it was agreed to discontinue these at Brooksby and transfer them to other churches in the parish.

The freemasons held their usual service on Palm Sunday and on Good Friday a foot of the cross meditative service was held. The lambing service at Hall Farm was held in April later than previously when the preacher was Bishop Saju. The Remembrance Sunday service is a regular feature. Christmas was celebrated with the Ratcliffe Chorale concert and the QHSA carol service. The First Communion of Christmas was celebrated in Brooksby Church.

We also rang the bells for the Coronation. The church was open as usual for Ride and Stride in September. We were represented again at the Brooksby Hall Wedding Fairs.

Fabric and related topics

Part of the aisle floor collapsed and this was repaired together with replacing displaced slates on the roof in 2024.

Derek Overfield continued to mow and maintain the churchyard and Candice and Garry Barker have overseen the various bird nest boxes. One of the small cavity boxes around the back was successfully occupied by blue tits, the large tawny owl box was occupied by jackdaws, and one of the starling boxes was occupied by jackdaws who gained entry after the hole had been made larger by woodpeckers.

The safety of the gravestones was checked and the fire extinguishers were serviced.

Fund-raising

A well supported quiz at The Stute, Asfordby, 6 talks to other organisations and the sale of the remaining tea towels raised £1073.

8.0 St Thomas of Canterbury, Frisby on the Wreake

Simon Blake & Pru Smith (CWs)

Mission

Our pattern of midweek services has settled into the following : 1st we now have an organist in the form of Neville. This is Holy Communion. taken by Rev David Harknett. The 2nd is morning prayer led by Malcolm Britton. The 3rd Wholeness & Healing is again led by David. The 4th Wednesday is now led by the Churchwardens and is firmly embedded in the service pattern. The occasional 5th midweek service is Holy communion with David. The congregation ranges from 5 – 15 in number and from 2024 will be held at 9.30a.m. (instead of the previous 9.15a.m.).

St Thomas church has also benefitted by having a Sunday “Worship” service every 3rd Sunday this year during winter months. Having 5 services per month means it is the most used church in the Upper Wreake parish. Pru Smith (CW) has to be congratulated on the number of cakes she produces not only for the 1st & 3rd midweek services but also pastries for the Sunday service.

CoCoCo : As part of our drive to look more closely at gaps in the pastoral care in the community David & Simon have set up a men’s group currently calling itself “Coffee, Cob & Conversation” which is taking place on the first Saturdays of each month at the Methodist chapel in Frisby. It is a place where men can meet just to converse and, if they choose, to open up to each other. Originally it was aimed at single men who have lost their spouses or are divorced but not exclusively and any one can join as long as he is a male! Currently upwards of 6 men meet together and appear to enjoy it greatly.

Spiritual renewal : Simon undertook a Cursillo course between 23-26th Nov. Cursillo is Spanish for “little course” but although’ little in name it was big in God’s presence. He experienced a great deal and came away very enthused & ready for action. One of the things it has led him to is Open Hands, a charity in Leicester which helps those without food, clothing and furniture where he now works on a Thurs morning.

We hosted a record 5 school services in 2023 at Lent, Easter, Leavers’ service, Harvest Festival and at Christmas. We think it was the Harvest Festival service which topped the record number of children /adults present : 185. The usual Christingle service was well attended as well with 106 parents/children/adults present. There were 4 funerals in 2023: Martin Coleman, Dick Hatton, Graham Aylott (who ran the Old Post Office in Frisby for many years before moving to Asfordby) and Carol Sim.

Maintenance/plans for the future

In December we saw the installation of the new Sound System. The Sound System has been an unexpectedly enormous asset to the Church. We (including parents) can now hear the children’s

voices clearly when school services occur. The system has 6 mics : 2 static at pulpit and lectern, 2 lapel mics and 2 hand held mics. It will play music through a memory stick and allow musical instruments, iPhones and computers to connect into it easily. However it has taken the CWs and Vicar some while to master properly: Simon is on his 5th iteration of simple instructions!

Renewal of the Infrared heaters. This has been looked at in some detail and quotes obtained but has been on hold as the Sound System has taken precedence. We are still wondering if new heaters can in fact make the church a warmer place or not because the heat vanishes upwards into an uninsulated roof space as with all old churches. David also received advice that Infrared heaters should not be installed in churches.

Future plans include major repairs for St Thomas church - see hyperlink below. The Quinquennial report of April 2023 highlighted areas of work which need urgent attention within the next 2 years or before and Simon is addressing this by contacting Jamie Mayers (Architect) in order that he produce specifications and get contractors to quote. This procedure alone is liable to take approx. 2 mths. He is also aiming to obtain faculties to cover all 6 items fairly soon. We expect the works to cost in the region £30K. Finally we are approaching the Parish Council for part funding along with applying to the National Heritage Lottery Fund and the National Churches Trust. The “work up” to a fully fledged bid with all parts in place may take about 6 mths.

The hyperlink below summarises the proposed work. Please click on “Design” when open :

[Major repair work to be carried out at St Thomas of Canterbury Church, Frisby on the Wreake \(cloud.microsoft\)](#)

Problems with damp still persist in the servery/vestry area and John Billings has been doing further work to quantify it. The damp appears in the cupboards and on the wooden boards of the servery above the kitchen surface. It can be wiped off and bleached but reappears after a few weeks. We are hoping that the drainage work proposed above will go some way to alleviating this continuous problem.

Finally we have not done much, if any, fund raising this year through concerts and exhibitions largely because a lot of energy has been focussed on the development of Minster Communities in the Diocese. It is expected that this might be the case in 2024 as well as we settle into our new area.

9.0 All Saints Hoby

Nicola Wheeler and Vic Allsop (Churchwardens)

In 2023 we continued to enjoy having Revd Crystal McAllister as our Pioneer Curate. However early on in the year changes took place to Crystal's curacy which not only ended her direct connection with Hoby, but also the Upper Wreake. She was licensed on June 4th at Waltham on the Wolds to a wider role across the Framland Deanery. So, we still have a connection with Revd Crystal, but share her with the rest of the Deanery. We were pleased though that she continued her Faith in Nature services with us and continued as a member of our DCC during the year. Her work to introduce new ways of thinking to our worship continued in 2023 and this has been enjoyed across the parish.

We also thank Revd David Harknett who has resumed his connection with Hoby and Canon Malcolm for their support in 2023.

The close relationship with the Methodist Church we have enjoyed for many years, has been impacted by ministerial issues in 2023 which we hope will be addressed in 2024. It has meant that joint worship in Hoby (and the Upper Wreake) ended in September 2023. Services happening at Hoby Parish Church and Hoby Methodist Church on the same day and time are indeed regrettable. We pray that we can be reconciled in 2024 and be together again.

Members of the District Church Council (DCC). In 2023 Canon Malcolm Britton retired from the DCC as did Sheila Warner. Three new members joined the DCC and these were Ann Kell, Richard Perry and Jo Perry. These people join the remaining DCC members of Revd David Harknett, Revd Crystal McAllister, Nicola Wheeler, Canon Vic Allsop, Sue Croft and June Allsop.

Happenings in 2023 – Events, news, fund raising and charity events etc.

- The Open Gardens Team and the Friends of Hoby Church after many years of running a bi-annual event and raising many thousands of pounds for the church and its fabric are to retire. They will not be running an Open Gardens event in June 2024. The DCC thanks them most sincerely for their dedication in running this successful event for so many years. The loss of this very significant income will need to be looked at and addressed by the Parish Church. The income was equal to £3.5k to £4k per year (Open Gardens raising from £7k to 8k), which is a significant part of the church budget.
- February 25th Ukraine Coffee and Cake morning to raise money and support the people of Ukraine 1 year after the Russian invasion. Raising funds for the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC) Ukraine
- April 21st The trial of The King v Lord Rufus of Hoby, raising funds for the church. A theatrical performance well supported by the community.
- May 6th The Church helped with and took part in the coronation event on coronation day at the Village Hall.
- May 8th The Big Help Out event at church was a big success. It was a joint event with the Village Hall and Chapel. The church was fortunate to get many volunteers for the morning.
- June 30th Freddie Mercury Tribute Act at the Village Hall. This raised over £1k for the church. The Village Hall was packed.

- September 9th We thank John Coleman for his sterling work in raising funds again for the Church and the Historic Churches Trust during the Ride+Stride event. Thanks also go to those who were in church during the Ride+Stride hours.
- September 15th Concert with Alan Thomas, on guitar and Lisa Nelson on flute. Proceeds went to church funds. This was another well supported event.
- October 14th Fund raising for the Children's Society, Coffee Morning
- October 22nd The retiring collection that day was sent to the Gaza Crisis Appeal
- November 11th Armistice Day, Act of Remembrance. The retiring collection was for The Royal British Legion
- December 17th Carol Service raising funds for the homelessness charity The Bridge. The Carol service was a big success this year and was well attended.
- The DCC has been pleased to have been able to support many different charities this year.

Projects and maintenance work at church during 2023.

Plans to repair the gates and pillars and the church path and introduce disabled access have restarted with faculty applications to be sent in at the beginning of 2024

Projects and maintenance work completed and on hold or requiring some preparatory work.

- Repairs to vulnerable parts of our boundary walls (Churchyard and Churchyard Extension). On hold
- Creating a strategy for stonework repairs. On hold
- Church heating project. On hold
- Review of our risk assessments. To be addressed in 2024
- Looking at a sound system. On hold
- Progressing our eco church status and developing our environmental projects. We obtained our bronze eco church award in 2022 and are near to achieving the silver award. To be addressed in 2024
- Setting up an account with Water Plus is ongoing and not sorted yet. To be addressed in 2024
- We have started the process of appointing a new architect, with interviews in January 2024. A Quinquennial on the church will be carried out in the autumn of 2024 by the new architect and some of the 'on hold' items can be accessed when the report is received
- We have a kind offer of financial support to conserve the large Coat of Arms in the church. We are in the early stages and a faculty application has been made.
- Water ingress. Where the water gets in over the server area has not been solved as of yet.
- Water ingress. The nave roof. Repairs to this roof are due in early 2024
- Freddie the Frog. The recycling of blister packs placed in the large green frog in church are being collected in support of Marie Curie Cancer Care. Freddie is regularly visited and fills up every 8 days or so. It keeps our volunteer for this well occupied!
- Hoby Church is an Inclusive Church. We have made this better known with new signage in place.
- The Church electrics required significant work carrying out to them this year. This was

completed in December to the satisfaction of our insurers.

- The Church organ was tuned in December. It is now played regularly by a visiting organist who plays the organ during the week and by our organist Richard Perry, who plays for our Sunday services.
- Projects to set up a bee hive, a bug hotel, bat surveys and monitoring of the wildflowers in the church yard. Work continued here in 2023. The bee hive still to be achieved.
- Hoby DCC have appointed an agent to pursue the purchase of 2.6 acres of land on Thrussington Road for a new Churchyard Extension as the existing Churchyard Extension has only two places left in it. We made little progress in 2023 and hope for better in 2024.
- The lightning conductor was tested in December, certificate awaited.
- A project to recruit new bell ringers to ring for the coronation has been very successful as there were many new ringers in 2023 to ring for the coronation and other occasions as well. With thanks to Martin Paling our Tower Captain and the new team of ringers we have. Vic stepped down as Steeple Keeper in the autumn and he has been replaced by Ian Stonehouse. The Church bells were serviced in December.
- We have continued to support Melton Storehouse Foodbank throughout 2023. Sending donations in every week. With many thanks to all who support this initiative.
- The DCC have listened to the comments of those who have concerns about the rewilding of the churchyard and how it looks. We are changing our grass cutter for 2024 and will be more intentional with the grass cutting making it look better cared for, but still rewilding. We also have some lovely new signage from the Art Group to go in place in 2024 to assist with presentation.
- The gift of 5 card tables from the Village Hall has been gratefully received. These are being cleaned and restored and are a useful asset for the church to have.

Finance of the Parish Church.

In 2023 fund raising from the Open Gardens monies arrived from the Friends of Hoby Church. The finances of the church will again require close attention in 2024 as the running costs of the church continue to exceed the income we receive, and this does not include finance required for repairs and maintenance etc. Energy costs have gone up significantly in 2023. A letter to the village encouraging regular giving to the church has had modest success in 2023 and needs further attention. At present reserves can cover the shortfall, but we need to address the imbalance we have. This is a priority for the DCC in 2024

Nicola and Vic thank the villagers again for the support the community gives the church. As we continue to work to provide a welcome to all in our community, in 2024 we will continue to press on to provide the church with the disabled access that it needs and the new burial ground it requires.

10.0 St. Peter's, Kirby Bellars

10.1 Kirby Roof Resurrectors

'Friends Of' equivalent

extracts from most recent Minutes (Feb 2024)

Applications for **Bird/Bat Boxes** ongoing, as is **Recording of Oral History**. A plan of the **Bell Tower** for a **Ventilation Faculty** is ongoing, following the liquidation of Peter Rogan's firm of Architects, and **Organ Disposal** is in the same category. **Safeguarding** training was completed by a number of the Resurrectors. **Church Key** has been located to a safe box in the church porch, and sensor lighting is to be installed in the porch and entrance to the church. **Funds raised** by the Resurrectors amounts to an incredible +£7,000, dedicated to roof replacement. All but the 100 Club funds will be moved to the Fabric Fund, leaving approximately £2,000 for running costs. The Museum have been asked for the return of the **Quern Stone** for display here, but this awaits a description by them, which will take a few months. **Hedge/Shrub Trimming** was led by Derek & Marilyn Overfield, with Resurrectors & other villagers. The **Christmas Eve Service** proved very popular once again and the collection raised £287.86. **Alan McPherson** joined the group, bringing a business plan and further information regarding the refurbishment and reordering of Great Bowden Church.

Heritage Lincolnshire have come alongside in the form of Hannah Mayhew, who met with the DCC & RR mid December. Very encouraging and positive, Hannah had drafted an 'Expression of Interest' application with information forwarded to her. This was well received by the Heritage Lottery Fund in early 2024, and the green light given for a full Funding application.

Liaison with the Village Hall is a key priority for 2024, to promote one another's work & facilities.

11.0 All Saints, Ragdale

Jane Burgess, Churchwarden

Mission and Ministry

Contemporary Communion Services continued to be held on the 2nd Sunday of each month during the year. On Easter Day a breakfast was shared in the church before the Communion Service at 10.30 the service culminated with everyone dressing the Easter Cross with flowers as they carried their thoughts and prayers to the Cross. There was further celebration, after the service, as we wished Maurice a very happy 80th birthday with Mark's homemade hot cross buns.

The Harvest Service was held in September and gifts collected were donated to Storehouse in Melton Mowbray. The service was followed by a simple ploughman's lunch open to everyone.

The Carol Service was held on 15th December, and we were all delighted to welcome Derek our Christmas organist, who this year stirred us to join in with percussion instruments to The Calypso Carol, this caused much merriment and warmed everyone up. We were entertained by the three children who attended the service as they admirably supported Rev. David throughout the evening. £120 was raised for Rainbows Hospice for Children and Young People. Refreshments of mulled wine, sausage rolls and mince pies followed with most people staying and enjoying the evening.

In July the funeral of Helen Harvey was held at All Saints' Church, Helen had lived for many years in Ragdale, at Hillside Farm, running a stable and working with horses, Helen was still known to some Ragdale residents. The funeral of Peter Hull was held at All Saints' Church in November and was interred in the Churchyard alongside the grave of his late wife. Peter, originally a farmer in Ragdale realised that he needed to diversify the business to survive and began a recycling company which has grown to be an important business and employer and is now in the safe hands of his family. Peter and family have always supported the church and continue to do so.

There were no weddings or baptisms held in Ragdale during the year.

At the ADCM meeting in March there were no changes to the members of the DCC.

Special Events

There were no special services held at All Saints Ragdale during 2023

Fabric of Church Building

There has been no major maintenance to the church building during 2023. The work to maintain the churchyard continues to be gifted by a member of the Church and is very gratefully received. The large Scots Pine tree, which had been leaning and causing damaged to the churchyard wall has now been removed. The Quinquennial Inspection had been arranged to take place in September, unfortunately the firm of architects appointed ceased trading days before inspection was to take place. This has delayed the process, and we are looking to appoint an architect very soon. The lack of

an architect has also delayed the process of obtaining tenders for necessary renovation work to the East window.

Fundraising/Social Activities

The coronation of King Charles III was celebrated in Ragdale with a wonderful street party, most of the village came and celebrated, bringing, and sharing food. There was lots of fun with games and races for the children and The Best Crown competition admirably judged by Rev. David. The sun shone as we toasted His Majesty in style. The following day many people turned out in the rain to watch the children plant an Oak tree in Ragdale to commemorate the coronation. This event was followed by coffee and cakes in the church. We have continued with the coffee mornings during the year which raise approximately £50 each time, although the reason we hold them is to bring people together for two hours, to enjoy coffee, cake and conversation.

12.0 All Saints, Rotherby

Sue Smith & Lesley Potter (Churchwardens)

When I started to put this report together I didn't think there would be much to report as I feel I have not given my all to my duties this year as Church Warden, but looking through I think it has been another busy year.

This year we have started offering breakfast before our 10-30 service on the first Sunday of the month, this has been fun to take part in we started with bacon cobs but now just serve croissants and toast. This will continue while there is an interest from the congregation. David Parr has been helping at Services leading us in Meditation this has been well accepted by everyone he has a real gift for this and calms us all down to start the service.

Several meetings have been held through the year in the Upper Wreake regarding Minster Communities which Sue and Lesley have attended this is slow moving but looks like we are joining in with Syston and surrounding Churches, possibly Sharing services, gifts of knowledge and Clergy.

Serena Sue and Lesley visited IKEA at Nottingham to purchase items for our new servery we were granted £2000- last year from 'The Royal Warrant Holders Association', new crockery, cutlery, utensils have all been stacked away in lovely clean cupboards ready to be shared with the village.

Cream tea's were held every Sunday in August again, another success. It was good to have our servery in use with hot water also to use the new tables that were purchased, this fundraiser seems to get better each year, and we are so grateful to all who help.

We held a pet service in October again, another success. Eve came with her chickens and gave us a short talk of how she looks after them also several dogs joined us.

The DCC decorated the Church for our Carol Service, a tree was donated by Jane from Barkby Hall, a friend of Serena's which stood outside the Church with lights. Mulled wine and mince pies were served before the service, Richard Knox sang a solo for us and this was attended by approximately 35 villagers slightly under other years.

The book club seems to have come to an end they used to meet in Church every few weeks, the house group continue to meet each week when the weather is not too cold.

The Annual Church walk was cancelled because of wet weather but we received donations.

Fireworks and a bonfire were held again in Gary's field and barn this was well supported and the display was yet again amazing, food was served and although it rained heavy at times it didn't spoil the spirits of those present.

The Winter warmer due to be held in November was postponed until January Twelfth night as it seemed to close to the bonfire.

A concert was held in Church by 'The Acoustic Duo' a local group this was a really fun night and enjoyed by all and something we will do again. We were really grateful to them coming as the leader had not been well.

David Seaman visited our Church in the summer along with members of his family, they are descendant of the Seaman family mentioned in our Church and who owned Rotherby Manor

adjacent to the Church in around 1720, he has searched the history of the family and written a book. Sue was able to meet up with them and they took photos around the Church and gave us a donation of £50- towards Church funds.

Easter cards were sent to all our regular givers to say thank you for their continued support.

Our Quinquennial took place this year and mentions work still needing our attention. Sue and Gary have a copy if anyone would like to look through it.

I just wish we could use the Church facilities more for the benefit of socializing in the villagers but it's always down to the same few people, we really do need some new blood but I'm afraid it's the same in all the villages.

The church building and graveyard has survived another year with little major issue but the following to report:

We had the Quinquennial Inspection in early June which was undertaken by John Dodson who is new to our church and replaced Hannah Crawford who has completed the inspection for the last three occasions. Unfortunately John made note of us not having an asbestos report or a tree survey in place (neither of which had ever been raised before) and this created some fuss with Rupert Allen at Diocese level. After it was pointed out to Rupert that the churchyard does not contain any mature trees under our ownership and that no asbestos is present in the building as defined by building works completed over the last 25 years the issue disappeared. The QI inspection found a fair amount of woodworm activity to pews and the reardos and it is intended to spray apply a woodworm killer to all internal wooden surfaces shortly.

External stonework decay was also recorded and this really is our next project to tackle, it can be done in stages however we do need to start a campaign of fund raising / grant applications as some parts are looking quite poor now.

The servery extension piece was made and delivered but it is unfortunately too large and is impassible when it is in place. James Troop has stated that he will cut it down however we need to transport it to his workshop.

Three of the Cherry trees have died, most likely as a result of the drought in 2022. We have applied to Melton Borough Council and been granted permission to remove these trees and this will be done over the summer months.

Unfortunately we have a problem with the clock, after many years of continual service it has decided to stop. Gary has exhausted his knowledge and has contacted Smiths of Derby who are arranging for an engineer to attend. The cost of a service and inspection is £650 and we hope that there is nothing too serious gone wrong.

13.0 Bellringers

Martin Paling, Tower Captain

In January, spurred on by a wish to 'Ring for the King', to mark the Coronation of King Charles III on 6 May, 13 people from various local villages asked to learn to ring Church bells. Over several weeks, Martin Paling taught each person, using

'The Association of Ringing Teachers' 'Learning the Ropes' programme, to ring full circle, with training sessions at Hoby, Kirby Bellars and Saxelbye. Three of the learners withdrew after three lessons each, deciding that Tower bell ringing was not for them, but two of them stayed to join the Handbells Team. In November, another recruit started learning to ring both the Tower bells and Handbells.

By March, the majority of learners were able to handle a bell and rope on their own, so a weekly practice night was re-started, after a break of five years. This enabled the learners to develop as a band and enhance their new skills to ring bells, which led on to ringing regularly for Church services and other special occasions.

At Hoby on 5 May, all five bells were rung prior to the funeral service for Eric Harvey. The bells were rung 'open' (without muffles), as Eric was a former bellringer at Hoby.

The Coronation of King Charles III on 6 May was celebrated by ringing at Hoby on the evening of 5 May, when 14 local ringers, including all of the remaining 10 learners, rang Rounds and Changes. Five ringers travelled to Saxelbye on 6 May, to mark the Coronation. The occasion was marked with similar ringing on all six bells at Kirby on the afternoon of 7 May, to coincide with the village's Community Lunch event. Several villagers also visited the Tower to chime a bell.

14 May was designated as 'Bell Sunday', to celebrate the Patronal Festival of St Dunstan, the Patron Saint of Bellringers. The local band rang the bells at Hoby, Kirby and Saxelbye to mark the occasion.

All five bells at Hoby were rung on 25 September, prior to the funeral of Mick Franklin.

The Hoby bells were also rung late on New Year's Eve and again on the following morning, to mark the arrival of 2024; the first time for many years that the bells have been rung to welcome the New Year.

Belfry cleaning and condition of the bell installations:

The Belfry and stairs at Kirby were given a thorough brush down and sweep up of the airborne debris in July by Martin Paling and Jonathan Chapman.

Martin and Jo Perry brushed and swept the Belfry and stairs at Hoby in August.

The wooden stay to the Treble bell at Kirby has been replaced twice this year and once at Hoby, following breakages, caused mainly by the stay being bumped regularly by several of the new ringers. The stay is a safety measure and is intended to break ... we just hope that it doesn't happen too often and all ringers know to try to hold the bell, so it stays short of the stay when in motion and to rest the bell gently against it when the bell is at rest.

In October, the rope of the Tenor bell at Hoby was found to be badly frayed (possibly due to having been chewed by an animal?). The rope was removed and replaced by a spare rope loaned from Ab

Kettleby Tower, pending repair by splicing in another section of rope.

Ian Stonehouse has taken on the role of Steeple keeper at Hoby.

Taylor's Bellfounders visited Hoby and Kirby Towers in December to inspect the installations. The Engineer has stated that all of the bells in each Tower are safe to be rung, but has pointed out that, at Kirby, some minor repairs may become necessary to the Treble and No.3 bells due to wear and tear. The Headstock of No.5 bell and the Tenor (No.6) bell pulley box show signs of woodworm (likely inactive). This will need to be monitored regularly and replaced as necessary in due course. The engineer indicates a likely need to replace the No.5 Headstock with a metal one when the current wooden one causes the bell to become loose. The problem is not urgent and replacement could well be several years away. The current likely cost of such work would be approx. £2,500.

Ventilation in the Ringing Room at Kirby Bellars

Installation of two opening windows into the Ringing Room at Kirby, to provide ventilation with a free flow of fresh air direct from an external source, has not yet taken place.

An application for a Faculty to do the work has been delayed, awaiting a recommendation and guidance from the Church's Architect. However, the previous Architect's business went into liquidation before we could obtain the necessary input. We await the appointment of another Architect, in order to satisfy the requirements of the Faculty application.

In the meantime, most ringers continue to wear a face mask while in the Ringing Room, although this is left to personal choice.

Handbells

The Handbell ringers continued to ring regularly during the year, playing old favourite tunes and also building on the repertoire. On 23 February, they provided background entertainment during a Coffee Morning at Kirby Church, held to mark the first Anniversary of the Russian invasion of Ukraine and to raise funds for the Disasters Emergency Committee to provide help to the displaced people of Ukraine.

Leanne Chidlow joined the Band in February and Judy Marsh in March. The Team marked the King's Coronation in May by ringing 'The National Anthem' and 'Rule Britannia', together with other tunes from the Handbells repertoire.

The Handbells from Hoby and Kirby were made available when The MADCOWS (Melton and District Company of Women) visited Kirby in June, to have a go at ringing a range of tunes. The Group also enjoyed the opportunity to chime the Tower bells.

Graham Porter kindly gave Handbells from Hoby a thorough overhaul to make them strike more freely, as the clappers had become stiff to move, probably due to lack of regular use.

The Ringers also performed for Melton Ladies Rotary Club in November and in December at the Carol Services for the WI at Burton Lazars and on Christmas Eve at Kirby Bellars.

14.0 Deanery Synod

Five gatherings took place, open to anyone who wanted to attend, along with a pre-Advent Retreat. Refreshments served typically at 7pm, business concluding by 9pm. All meetings were in person.

Thursday 2nd March Finance Focus	(Melton St.Mary's) <i>Jonathan Kerry, David Palmer, Simon Wilson</i>
Sat 4th & Sun 5th March Lent Prayer Pilgrimage	(various Parishes) <i>Bishop Martyn</i>
Wednesday 24th May Deanery Welcome	(Asfordby All Saints) <i>Bishop Saju</i>
Thursday 28th June Wellbeing in Ministry	(Gaddesby St.Luke's, w. Greater Chapter) <i>Claire Wood, Archdeacon of Loughborough</i>
Thursday 31st August Youth Engagement	(Bottesford St.Mary's, w. Greater Chapter) <i>Matt Long, Intergenerational Communities Enabler</i>
Wednesday 29th November Pre-Advent Quiet Day	(Launde Abbey) <i>led by Launde Chaplain</i>

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Shaped by God Together : Minster Communities

This initiative, which began in 2019, launched in Framland and part-Goscote Deaneries in April 2023. The journey so far has, in essence, more than doubled the number of Deanery Meetings, creating on the whole uncertainty and mistrust. Gatherings occurred in the following way, approximately :-

~ April 2023	Diocesan-led gathering of +100 from c.60 parishes in Melton Baptist Church
~ May-June	Diocesan-led 'Conversation Prompts' spread across 3 locations & 3 evenings
~ July	Parish-populated 'Storyboards' submitted to the Diocese
~ August	Diocesan-circulated proposals for 2 Minster Communities, inviting comment
~ September	Deanery-led gathering of +100 from c.60 parishes in Melton St.Mary's
~ October	Diocesan-led gathering of +60 to decide which MC option in Gaddesby V-Hall
~ November	Diocesan-led Zoom meeting to explain pushback against (& pause in) process
~ February 2024	Diocesan-led gathering of +100 hosted by Bishop Martyn in Melton St.Mary's <i>n.b. Possibility of 3 MCs mooted, dependent on staffing & funding</i>
~ March	Diocesan-led Zoom meeting of self-selected Reps for Coordinating Group
~ April	Mutually-led gathering of 20 Reps for Mission & Sustainability sub-groups
~ April – July	Mission/ Sustainability groups to meet, pray, trawl data & propose MC options <i>n.b. Sustainability split into Buildings / Finances / Personnel</i>

Financial Report 2023

The Parish of the Upper Wreake Consolidated Accounts Receipts and Payments for the Year ended 31 December 2023 and the Statement of Assets at 31 December 2023

	DCC							
	Brooksby 2023	Frisby 2023	Hoby 2023	Kirby 2023	Ragdale 2023	Rotherby 2023	DCC Total	2022
RECEIPTS								
Fund Raising	819.00	536.71	11086.97	4845.67	338.00	2001.56	19,627.91	15,737.67
Wedding and Funeral Fees	1983.00	4538.46	855.00	330.00	920.00	943.00	9,569.46	8,953.83
Donations	781.46	859.62	2277.45	1720.00	1630.10	1593.01	8,861.64	12,886.99
Collections	1550.47	1871.33	487.20	917.30	445.30	302.80	5,574.40	7,540.98
Sundry	676.53		253.86	4200.00		150.00	5,280.39	24,023.16
Grants	570.00		350.00			1593.02	2,513.02	29,238.35
VAT						3448.63	3,448.63	0.00
Interest	61.62		1044.14		70.86		1,176.62	149.33
Planned (Regular) Giving	655.00	7297.71	7760.00	2247.96	3485.00	3660.00	25,105.67	26,782.67
Income Tax Recovered (Gift Aid)	4277.11		2360.98			1286.90	7,924.99	9,173.56
Donated Collections			1157.00		433.30	337.50	1,927.80	120.50
CCLA Transfer		8815.00					8,815.00	0.00
Total Receipts	11,374.19	23,918.83	27,632.60	14,260.93	7,322.56	15,316.42	99,825.53	134,607.04
PAYMENTS								
Parish Contribution (Diocese)	1752.00	6825.00	2300.00	700.00	1560.00	2376.00	15,513.00	16,127.00
Cluster Levy (SWF)	144.00	1509.00	888.00	1100.00	361.00	432.00	4,434.00	6,145.00
Organ Tuning and Repairs		218.43					218.43	1,692.00
Power, Rates etc	308.27	624.11	545.85	882.45	1707.07	341.52	4,409.27	2,739.36
Fees paid	555.00	235.40	329.00	25.00	111.18		1,255.58	1,230.56
Donations etc	977.50	339.00	1157.00		488.20	561.00	3,522.70	4,605.92
Church Insurance Premium	2176.08	2490.79	3846.99	3678.98	1315.54	2744.60	16,252.98	15,010.77
Maintenance Church yard			730.00	710.00	1440.00	1555.18	4,435.18	1,795.00
Sundry	114.00	3724.94	1692.55	1828.10	60.00	1590.80	9,010.39	13,961.80
Maintenance	349.44	168.00	4876.48	4592.09		720.00	10,706.01	38,430.83
Building Repairs/Alarms					821.40		821.40	703.20
Major Building Works	3420.00	12155.08				5379.07	20,954.15	92,010.97
Professional Fees							0.00	0.00
CCLA Transfer							0.00	0.00
Total Payments	9796.29	28289.75	16365.87	13516.62	7864.39	15700.17	91,533.09	194,452.41
Movement in Funds CURRENT	1,577.90	-4,370.92	11,266.73	744.31	-541.83	-383.75	8,292.44	-59,845.37
Movement in ADDITIONAL Funds/ Accounts e.g. Deposit/ Fabric/ Bell/ CCLA		-4,461.14		773.18				192.21
Balance at start of year	6,166.06	55,392.61	49,295.93	28,095.14	15,345.76	13,158.64	167,454.14	227,107.30
Statement of Assets at 31 Dec'r 2023	7,743.96	46,560.55	60,562.66	29,612.63	14,803.93	12,774.89	175,746.58	167,454.14
Balance carried forward; all held in High Street Bank Current or Deposit Accounts								

David Harknett

Rev'd David HARKNETT
Priest in Charge and Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report

- The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts, as presented above. 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) or the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 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 sec. 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
 - to state whether particular matters have come to my attention
- 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
 - which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
 - To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met;
 - or to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed

Date

T. G. Barkley

16th April 2024

Tom Barkley

1 St.Thomas Way, Frisby on the Wreake, MELTON MOWBRAY, LE14 2PF